

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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Supervisor Harry Britt, who shepherded the domestic partnership ordinance through City Hall, as he appeared in this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. The "Yes on S" pro-domestic partnership campaign office will open this Saturday, Sept. 9. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

## Domestic Partners Said to Be in Jeopardy

by Allen White

Voter apathy in the gay community, the loss of a key endorsement and a poll of San Francisco voters indicate the "Yes on S" campaign to validate domestic partners is in serious trouble even before it begins.

Last week the San Francisco Planning and Research Council voted against endorsing domestic partners. Todd Dickinsen, co-chair of the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, said "This is an organization which influences public opinion in the institutional areas—the daily newspapers, for example, and, frankly, things like Pacific Heights voters

and good-government yuppies.

"They are given credit for being very thoughtful, very investigative and researching the issues very thoroughly. Coming out against domestic partners could provide an opening wedge hindering getting to the very moderate good-government support we need to win our campaign," Dickenson said.

The research council, known as SPUR, is a good-government think tank that takes positions on planning issues. Its board voted to take a position on all the ballot issues and last week voted to vote no on domestic partnership. The

Public Affairs Committee and staff had recommended a neutral position.

Dickenson also noted that the research council's board had a precedent for reconsidering its vote.

"They reconsidered their vote on the Missouri last year after further consideration, and I believe further consideration is called for here. They voted, in my opinion, without having all the facts, and they voted on opinions outside of the ordinance," he said.

"SPUR was concerned on

issues which were outside the four corners of the issues we are voting on. They believed the slippery slope argument that this is simply the opening volley in a campaign to get a whole plate of very expensive health items for a whole other group of people.

"I think it is a strong indication this is going to be a long fight," Dickenson said. "I think we need to mobilize and not be complacent because there are plenty of people out there and plenty of organizations that don't care about our issues or are willing to nitpick them to death that are going to turn out. We have to

make sure our vote turns out. If we do, we win. If we don't we lose."

A concern for voter apathy was expressed by Supervisor Harry Britt.

"It has bothered me to hear from people who have been out on Castro Street trying to register voters that there are lesbians and gay men who don't want to get involved and don't understand the enormous difference we can make in the lives of our people if we do get involved," Britt said.

The worst fears of Yes on S

(Continued on page 2)

## They'll Take Manhattan

### Gay Candidates Get Serious Support In Quest for New York City Council

by Sandor Katz

New York City elects 35 City Council members, 25 state Senators, 60 state Assembly members, 15 congressional representatives, five borough presidents, a City Council president, a comptroller, and a mayor. Not a single one is or ever has been openly gay or lesbian.

This year, however, two gay men from Manhattan are running for seats on the New York City Council. Tom Duane is challenging 20-year incumbent Carol Greitzer in Chelsea and Greenwich Village, and Dave Taylor is vying in an eight-person race to succeed Ruth Messinger in her

Upper West Side and Hell's Kitchen district.

Duane's candidacy got a big boost last Friday when he received the endorsement of the influential editorial page of the *New York Times*. Both men are running in the Democratic primary, which will be held Sept. 12. In New York City, victory in the primary virtually ensures victory in the general election.

In 1985, openly gay candidate David Rothenberg came close to election to the City Council. He lost to Greitzer by a 54-46 margin. "Prior to David Rothenberg, expectations were not that

we would necessarily have gay or lesbian council members," observes Rothenberg's campaign manager, David Fleischer. He thinks Rothenberg's near success raised the expectations as well as the electoral organizing capacity of the gay community, and that lesbian and gay representation on the council is imminent: "If it's not Tom or Dave, then next time."

It is no accident that the two highest officials in the United States who are openly gay—Congressmen Barney Frank and Gerry Studds—both came out

(Continued on page 17)

## Discrimination Alleged In SF County Jail

by Gregory Douthwaite

Four gay inmates are suing a San Francisco County jail for discrimination, complaining that they were taken off kitchen duty after threats from heterosexual inmates.

"I don't know why we can't work in the kitchen," gay inmate Stanley Robinson, 32, said. "I'm healthy."

The gay prisoners have filed a \$10 million lawsuit against the county jail, which is located in San Bruno. Last week a federal judge ordered the sheriff and the mayor to respond to the civil rights complaint.

Two gay inmates lost jobs in the butcher shop. They were told that they had been threatened be-

cause other inmates were afraid to have gay men handling food because of AIDS fears. Two other gay inmates lost jobs as kitchen janitors.

The gay inmates are angry that no action has been taken against the threateners, and no more gays have been hired in the kitchen.

"The inmates at this jail feel as though they can disrespect and even threaten the life of a gay inmate without injury to themselves," Robinson said. "This appears to be fact since this administration turns their head to such blatant gay hate and discrimination."

A spokesman for the jail de-

(Continued on page 2)

THIS PAPER IN TWO SECTIONS

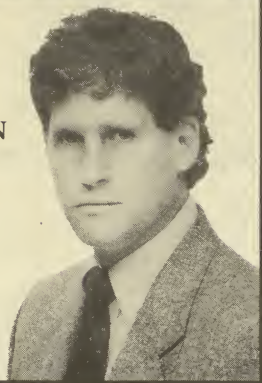
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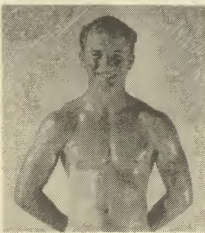


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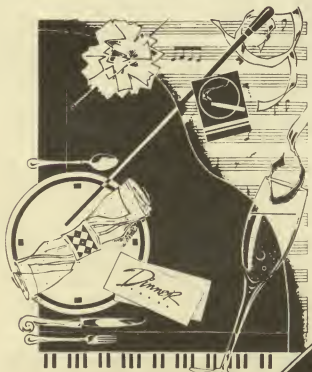
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The "Yes on S" campaign headquarters, which will open this Saturday, Sept. 9, at 10 a.m. The office is on Market Street at the intersection of Franklin. (Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

## Partners

(Continued from page 1)

campaign strategists were confirmed in a poll released this week. The poll, conducted by Target Research and headed by pollster David Binder, shows 41 percent in favor and 37 percent opposed with 22 percent undecided.

"It is a poll of very likely voters, people with a known voting history," Yes on S campaign head Dick Pabich said. "This poll is different than others that have been published. It shows us with less support than other polls have shown."

"It shows particularly that where we have the least support, the more likely they are to vote. Those people who are sure to vote in this election are the least supportive of us," he said.

According to Pabich, "The polls show a very solid third of the people are against us on this issue, which is basically rooted in homophobia. The homophobes are the most likely to vote."

The positive conclusion Pabich gives is that "when you remove the hardcore homophobes from the electorate in terms of our targeted audience,

we have a very good chance of getting all the other people because they are not homophobic."

Cutting through all the statistics, Pabich says, "In this election, if it were held today, we would absolutely lose!" The reason is "because even in this poll, not all the people we polled are going to vote. Everyone who doesn't vote in the upcoming election, but voted last year for president, is our voter. Every single one of them. And every single person we get to vote who wouldn't otherwise do so is our vote."

These concerns for voter turnout have caused gay leaders such as Britt to strongly emphasize the stakes in this election.

"This election will be decided by turnout. If we and our friends turn out in large numbers, we can win a dramatic victory and help lesbians and gay men all over the country gain recognition for their relationships."

The first major opportunity to become part of this get-out-the-vote effort will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9—the official kickoff of the Yes on S campaign at the headquarters, located at Franklin and Market streets.

"It is critical that volunteers show up for that," Pabich said.

"They will be plugged in to the system that will involve door-to-door work, street corner work and telephoning work. There will be work for people in the office."

As the volunteer effort begins, the fundraising effort of the campaign will continue.

Campaign fundraiser Carole Migden said, "There will be a whole spectrum of gay participation. There will be events in the South of Market area, and also we will be reaching out to conservative gays, many who have not previously been involved in gay political activities."

She notes that in the next few weeks there will be many house parties, the Folsom Street Fair and several events at Amelia's bar on Valencia Street.

"I'm optimistic because this crosses political lines," Migden said. "It is not a partisan issue. Gay people, pretty universally, want this legislation to pass, and they are united in wanting to fight for it."

"I'm seeing support," she said. But she acknowledged it is not so enthusiastic as she would like. "Maybe that will come to the fore." ▼

• Harry Britt on Domestic Partners, page 5.

## Inmates

(Continued from page 1)

nied that there was discrimination against gays.

"Our policy is to allow inmates to work in any area," sheriff's spokesman Ray Tobis said.

The presence of knives in the kitchen makes it a "sensitive" position, Tobis said. And Robinson is "not exactly a model citizen"—he is awaiting sentencing for battery against two police officers, he said.

After the dismissals, an AIDS training program was given to the jail's kitchen staff. But educators determined that the problem was not AIDS or homophobia, Tobis said. The problem was a personal dispute between Robinson and others in the kitchen.

Robinson said his dismissal was clearly not due to a personal dispute, because all four gay men were fired. He said an educator told him the problem was homophobia.

Gay inmates only began working in the kitchen recently. In June about 50 inmates signed a petition protesting that gays were not being allowed to work in the kitchen. Robinson and another gay inmate were subsequently hired to work as kitchen janitors.

The gay inmates were told that their performance would be used as a guide to hiring more gays. After 18 days, two more gay inmates were hired in the kitchen as janitors. Robinson and another gay inmate were put to work in the butcher shop.

On July 27, after only one day of work, the gay inmates were taken from the butcher shop. A supervisor said there had been threats of bodily harm if they were not removed.

As they were led from the kitchen, several inmates clapped their hands, Robinson said. Later that same day the two other gay inmates were taken off kitchen duty.

The gays asked the captain of the jail why the men making the threats were not charged or at least removed from the kitchen. Captain Michael Koehler said he couldn't remember who they were, Robinson said.

The captain promised that gays would again be hired in the kitchen, but so far no more have been, Robinson said.

Since the dismissals, the coffee urns have been tainted with urine "at least twice," and pancakes have been heavily oversalted, Robinson said.

Judge Charles A. Legge has ordered Sheriff Mike Hennessey and Mayor Art Agnos to respond to the complaint within 30 days. ▼

## AIDS Emergency Fund Hosts Community Meeting

The AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) has invited its honorary board and all interested members of the public to its next regular board meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, Van Ness and Pine.

In addition to its regular business meeting, the board of direc-

tors will lead a "town hall" discussion on the issues of appropriate levels of "overhead" expenses for fundraising and the levels of reserves needed for maintaining its client funding.

The AIDS Emergency Fund encourages comments and participation from the public. ▼

# Gay Activists Support Frank Through Scandal

by Cliff O'Neill

National gay and lesbian political activists across Washington this week are supporting embattled Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass) through the scandal involving his hiring of a male prostitute as a personal aide.

The conservative *Washington Times* reported Aug. 25 that Frank had hired Stephen L. Gobie as a housekeeper and chauffeur in 1985, a few months after Frank had paid him \$80 for sex. The *Times* also alleged that for two years afterwards, Gobie, a convicted felon, had used Frank's Washington, D.C., home as a base for a prostitution service. Frank has denied knowing of the alleged prostitution and has said he fired Gobie and banned him from Frank's home as soon as his suspicions were aroused.

"It's just amazing to me the interest this has generated in the press," said Robert Bray, communications director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "It seems that the news media are quick to call us when we're involved in scandal, or when we're dying of AIDS. They don't call us as quickly on other issues affecting our community."

"If anyone can survive this ordeal, it's congressman Barney Frank," said Bray. "He's a brilliant parliamentarian; he's well respected by his peers; he's feared by his opponents; his constituents support him overwhelmingly, even after the scandal; and he's the master of the political zinger. So all that adds up to a very shrewd and powerful player on Capitol Hill."

The activists do not see a serious threat to Frank's seat in the 1990 elections. But the activists note they do suspect that, after the 1990 census, his district may be redrawn to his detriment, forcing him to run against a strong challenger in unfamiliar territory.

Also gaining high marks from gay and lesbian leaders has been the "forthright" manner in which Frank has addressed the issue. For the fact that he spoke at length to *The Washington Times* in its initial story, to his press conference the morning of the revelations, to his continued accessibility to the national media, gay and lesbian activists are giving Frank high marks for his handling of the media. For his public apologies and his initiating a House ethics investigation of his own activities, he gets even higher marks.

"I can't think of anything more he could be doing to bring this issue out into the open and [have it] disposed of," said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Anti-Violence Project Director Kevin Berrill. "If this happened to another member of Congress or another public official, we'd encounter stonewalling and silence. But I think it's typical of the way Barney Frank deals with things. He deals with them head-on and directly."

Others note that, if one had to pick a time to be the object of a D.C. sex scandal, August would be it, as there is little else hap-

pening in the capital and Congress is out of session, and, hence, less vocal on any given issue.

Noting that, at the time of his association with Bogie, Frank had not yet publicly acknowledged being gay, Bray said, "It's important for gays and lesbians to realize that when they live in the closet—either as politicians, priests, military officers or regular persons—they are vulnerable to illicitness, subterfuge and blackmail. Barney Frank is a perfect example that when you live in the closet and you carry a big secret, you are susceptible to making decisions that are against your better judgment."

"I don't think this would have happened after his having come out," he added.



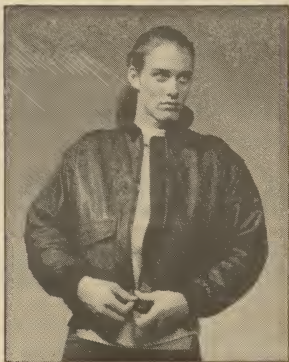
**Rep. Frank in San Francisco**

Rep. Barney Frank, at right, last week accepting an award in the form of an inscribed silver platter from Don Disler, treasurer of the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance. (Photo: Rink)

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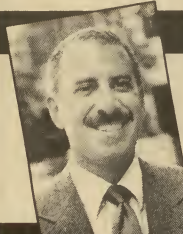
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# Gay Catholics End Pilgrimage At Convention in City

## Sexual Ethics Letter Approved; New Officers Elected

by Mary Richards

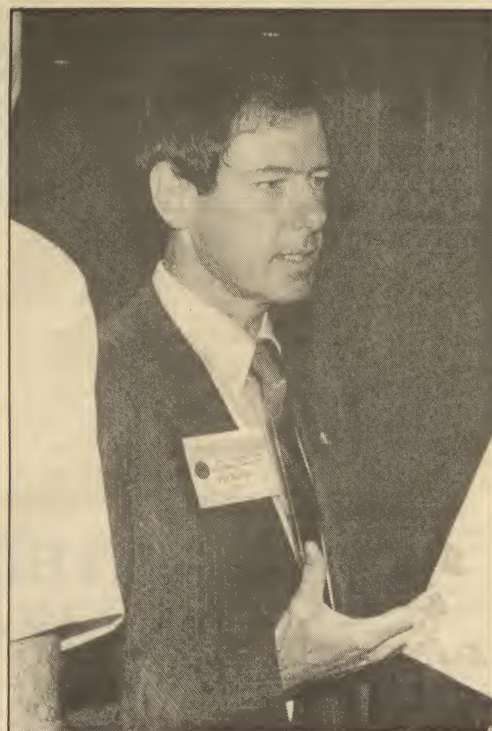
The Dignity/USA Convention, billed as "A Pilgrimage of Hope," brought 600 delegates to San Francisco from throughout the nation last weekend to elect a new board of directors for the national organization and to approve a pastoral letter on sexual ethics that has been six years in the making.

The excitement began last Thursday night with a jubilant celebration in City Hall, which included an appearance by the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Sistah Boom. Friday evening the Grand Ballroom of the Cathedral Hill Hotel was taken over by delegates and their dates, who attended an awards dinner and danced until 1 a.m. The serious work followed on Saturday, when Dignity members met to share in a Liturgy of Lamentation and Reconciliation.

"Saturday was a very tough day," said Sophie Miranda, San Francisco convention co-chair. "One of the things we were trying to do in recalling our past was to let go. A lot of people had to name their hurts—the hurt from the Church, maybe even with some individuals within Dignity, certainly the hurt at our group loss that we have had from AIDS."

The names of over 400 Dignity members who have died of the disease were read out loud during the liturgy. "Everybody here heard some names of people that they knew," Miranda continued. "People did let go then. They cried, they cried very hard."

An AIDS Education Resource Guide, which lists everything from books and brochures to hotlines and health departments, was distributed to representatives of local chapters. Tom Orians, co-chair of Dignity's National AIDS Project, commented, "We realize that we have a bunch of small chapters that just don't have the resources in their area. What the



Pat Roche, newly elected national president of Dignity.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

resource guide was designed to do is provide them with a good, solid listing of what's out there, what's available, and to give them some ideas for programs."

A new board of directors was elected; it will serve a two-year term. Officers are Pat Roche of Seattle, president; Beth Gorman of San Francisco, vice president; Michael Flynn of Philadelphia, secretary; and Sophie Miranda of San Francisco, treasurer.

Roche has been a member of Dignity since 1981 and is a former regional director. In his

speech to the membership, he stressed five important issues for Dignity to address in the future: "To make compassionate ministry to people with AIDS a top priority; to ensure full participation by women in Dignity and in the church; to insist that our church unequivocally condemn violence, hatred and prejudice against gays and lesbians; to call for church support for legislation protecting our basic civil rights to fair housing, employment and domestic partnerships; and to

(Continued on next page)

# Privacy Case in Supreme Court Expected to Have Wide Support

National Gay Rights Advocates has filed an *amicus curiae* brief in an important privacy case before the U.S. Supreme Court. The case, *Cruzan v. Cruzan*, will consider whether the constitutional right of privacy includes the right to die. The case is considered one of the most important cases before the Court this term because of its potential impact on a broad range of constitutional privacy issues, including the right to abortion.

"The Supreme Court has already delivered a crushing blow to the sexual privacy rights of gay and lesbian Americans," said attorney Benjamin Schatz, director of National Gay Rights Advocates' AIDS Civil Rights Project. "We cannot allow the Court to further erode our privacy rights by taking away our right to medical privacy as well. The right to medical privacy is particular-

ly crucial for persons with HIV disease because it encompasses such important concerns as access to treatments and freedom from forced testing," Schatz added.

NGRA filed its brief in the case involving Nancy Cruzan, a 31-year-old Missouri woman who sustained devastating injuries following an automobile accident six years ago. She is described as being in a "state of persistent vegetation."

Nancy's family and friends have maintained that she would not want to be kept alive under these conditions. Nonetheless the state supreme court, citing a Missouri anti-abortion law, ruled that the state's "policy strongly favoring life" outweighed Nancy's right to die by discontinuing artificial life support.

The American Academy of Neurology has urged the U.S.

Supreme Court to reverse the Missouri decision. This is the first time that the Supreme Court, after four previous requests, has agreed to hear a case involving an individual's right to terminate extraordinary medical life support.

"This case has obvious implications for people with AIDS and their loved ones who may have to make similar decisions," said NGRA executive director Jean O'Leary. "The need for gay persons to make decisions regarding medical life support requires an expanded definition of the family which includes gay families and life partners," she added.

Walter Allan, Marcia Leitner and Maureen Corcoran, attorneys with the prestigious law firm Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro, were NGRA's cooperating attorneys in the case. ▼

# Sup. Harry Britt on Domestic Partners

I have a lot of faith in our people. It has bothered me to hear from people who have been out on Castro Street trying to register voters that there are lesbians and gay men who don't want to get involved and don't understand the enormous difference we can make in the lives of our people if we do get involved. If Harvey Milk could come back and say just three words to us he would say, "Register and vote." He always understood that we do have control of our future if we do the things we have to do to win.

The domestic partners issue will be decided by turnout. If we and our friends turn out in large numbers, we can win a dramatic victory and lesbians and gay men all over the country gain recognition for their relationships. But in off-year elections that hasn't happened before. There is a long history of very low and very conservative turnouts. We know that the people who don't accept us, the people who are homophobic, are going to vote. We have put together an extraordinary staff, and we have the support of the mayor, the board of supervisors and almost every elected official in the city. What we are asking people so say yes to is lesbian and gay love in a way they have never been asked before, and we shouldn't assume we are going to get the answer we want unless we do our work.

So I think the focus of the campaign is for us to say "our future is in our own hands." We can win this one like we have won so many before, but we have to register



Sup. Harry Britt

and vote. We have to say to our apolitical friends that this is the time to stand up for the people because, strange as it seems, everyone who does not get out and vote is voting against gay relationships and is saying our freedom is not important enough to make that kind of effort.

When you start talking about lesbian and gay love, that is very different than lesbian and gay rights. When you start saying that our relationships should be recognized with the full respect

of the law, that is very threatening to certain people who have not worked through their feelings about gay love. It is very difficult for religious people who in good conscience must worship with their church's proscriptions against weakening the sanctity of marriage. So there is a lot of that going on out there.

In the past, people could vote for issues that would support our community in the interest of justice, human rights or liberalism. This time we are asking them to say our relationships are valid and our love is valid and government needs to deal with those relationships fairly. That is a hard thing for a lot of people.

My sense is our community is very united. Gay Republicans and gay Democrats will be working together. Every community organization will be working together. It is the same kind of unity we have shown together in the AIDS epidemic.

The whole country will be looking at this city. I have been hearing for years that because of the AIDS epidemic that gay power is on the decline. I know that is not true. The response to the AIDS epidemic has given us greater acceptance in the American family than we have ever had before. But we need to show that in San Francisco, at this point in the AIDS epidemic, we are accepted as part of the San Francisco family. I want to win among all segments of the population. If we can put out that kind of political statement, then we can go to every other constituency in the country and say, "Why aren't you responding to the needs of these people when they are dying? Why are you not acknowledging lesbian and gay leadership in your city? Why are you still tolerating bigotry in your city?"

## Dignity

(Continued from previous page)

urge church respect for our right to form our individual conscience about our right to dissent."

In 1986, the Vatican issued "A Letter on the Pastoral Care of Homosexuals," the Ratzinger letter, which contained a stinging indictment of gay and lesbian sex. As a result of accelerated persecution by the Church since then, Dignity chapters throughout the country have been banished from celebrating mass in "Catholic space."

Even before the Ratzinger letter was published, Dignity had formed a Task Force on Sexual Ethics. After six years of effort, including response to questionnaires and in-depth interviews, the pastoral letter on sexual ethics was presented at this year's convention.

It is a guide for the Dignity

membership and the "wider religious community." In its 25 pages is advice to those who want to integrate spirituality with sexuality as socially responsible adults. The letter addresses sexuality in relation to oppression, fear and conscience, and admits to the challenges, risks and rewards that the future holds for gays and lesbians in a Catholic world.

This year's Dignity convention also included "process sessions," which were facilitated by Evelyn Eaton Whitehead and James D. Whitehead, theologians and consultants in education and ministry.

Sheryl Green of San Francisco commented, "I was at the convention two years ago in Miami, and we goofed off a lot more, we played a lot more. Here, it's really a spiritual growth process that we're going through. The process sessions have been very enlightening and productive. We've

opened doors of communication that haven't been opened before."

Tom Carroll, former co-chair of Dignity San Francisco and director of Region IX, spoke about the change of format for this year's convention in relation to the process sessions. "We've never done anything like this, ever, and we weren't sure we could pull it off, but we were committed to it because it was so exciting to us."

"But for the first time, I think, Dignity has taken itself very seriously. The sharing that I've heard this week has been deep and honest and painful, because we've had to admit our own shortcomings. We've had to admit where we have failed as individuals and as an organization, and forgive ourselves before we could go on."

"That has changed the face of Dignity. Dignity will never be the same again."



More than 700 delegates from across the country came to the Dignity convention last weekend in San Francisco.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

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# BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

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## EDITORIAL & OPINION

### Donors' Rights?

The gay community is being hit by all sides for funds. Please donate to this or that. Give money to help fight heart disease, support crippled children, and to seniors and the biggest bite of all the myriad AIDS and AIDS-related organizations. We are being bombarded through the mails or our telephones and by advertisements in our newspapers. It has come down to who to support and how much?

One of the most asked questions to the *Bay Area Reporter* is where does my money go? (How much is salaries and how much goes to help the individuals I wish to support?) It is very difficult to answer this question. The acceptable standard for the larger organizations seems to be between 70 and 75 cents on the dollar goes to the charity (program). If the figure becomes higher than this, groups may be spending too much on overhead or fundraising.

The phone rings and a nice voice on the other end is requesting a monetary donation to a charity. You ask questions and the caller either evades your request or answers with a pre-set answer to make you happy. What kind of consumer protection do you have? Almost none. The U.S. Supreme Court in a series of decisions over the past couple of terms has all but set the charities free from regulation. The business of paid fundraisers is protected under the First Amendment. You cannot even force them to tell you how much of the money (what percentage) you donate goes to the work you support and believe in.

A form of charity solicitation you should be wary of is the kind that either is sponsoring a circus, a talent contest or a variety show. This type of charity may be put on by police organizations, civic groups or individuals. This type of charity fundraising normally uses professional telephone solicitors, and they cost dearly. In several states checked, the average return to the charity has been a meager 25 cents on the dollar. Some states have even reported lower figures (North Carolina—1987—18 cents on the dollar). Professional telemarketing is one of the most expensive ways for a charity to raise money.

New organizations have a difficult time getting started and will spend greater sums of money to develop a donor base. There are no safeguards

that the money you donate toward a specific program will make it.

The most far-reaching decision in the deregulation of charities occurred in spring 1988 when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on *Riley v. National Federation of the Blind of North Carolina*. Some states had set rules ordering professional charitable fundraisers to disclose the percentage they took in fees. The Supreme Court said no. A charity is allowed to conceal, disclose or say almost anything it wants. A fundraising appeal is a pure form of speech.

What can happen in the deregulation of charities can be seen in the sordid dealings of some of the money collected in the name of organized religion. The financial mess of the PTL and Jim and Tammy Bakker is a perfect example of charities gone wrong.

We are not trying to discredit or point a finger at any gay-related charity for wrongdoing in our community. What we are trying to do is make those charities more responsive to the communities they purport to serve. As a donor, you are the one giving the money and you have the right to ask the questions. Responsible organizations should answer those questions openly.

As donors' rights have been eroded by the Supreme Court what do you do to fight back? If you are a serious donor and want to contribute a large sum of money, leave a will naming a charity as beneficiary. If you would like to know more about the charity, you should request the following:

- (1) A copy of the statement on file with the Secretary of State as to its tax-exempt status.
- (2) A copy of IRS Form 990 (shows fundraisers' costs and the top salaries).
- (3) Full information on the charities' programs.

Remember, it's your money to spend or give to charity. Give it wisely and make the organizations answer your questions. ▼

## GUEST OPINION

### Seven Dangerous Environments

by John Newmeyer, Ph.D.,  
and Barry Lawlor, M.S.  
Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics

The twentieth century can be a dangerous time to be alive. There continue to be wars, civil strife, violent crime, and diseases which threaten us with early death. But just how lethal are these periods?

To address this question, we have selected seven modern environments which are represented by the world's media as "dangerous." Many images of the lethality of each can be recalled by any well-informed citizen. These seven environments are:

- (1) Being a gay man in San Francisco at the height of the AIDS epidemic.
- (2) Being a U.S. soldier in Vietnam during the most intense phase of that war.
- (3) Being a young black male resident in Washington, D.C., the "murder capital" of the nation.
- (4) Being a resident of Lebanon during the years of its civil war.
- (5) Being a Palestinian during the "intifada" of 1987-89.
- (6) Being a male adult resident of Northern Ireland in the "troubles" of the 1970s and 1980's.
- (7) Being a black South African during the civil strife of the mid-1980s.

We can compare the seven by using the measure "risk of death per thousand person-years of life." That is, we imagine 1,000 individuals in the risky environment and calculate how many of them would be expected to die each year from the specified cause. The calculations lead to some unexpected and fascinating findings:

Risk Group	Base Population	Deaths	Deaths/1,000 Person-Years
U.S. soldiers active in Vietnam, 1968: battle deaths	520,000	12,900	24.8
Gay men resident in San Francisco, 1988: deaths due to AIDS	56,000	1,015	18.1
Black men aged 18-44, Washington, D.C., 1989; projected homicides	95,700	377	3.9
Lebanese residents, 1975-1988: deaths due to civil strife	2,550,000	130,000	3.6
Palestinians, Dec. 1987 to April 1989: deaths due to civil strife	1,700,000	450	.20
Northern Irish adult males, 1988: deaths due to civil strife	500,000	86	.15
South African blacks, Sept. 1984 to August 1986: deaths due to civil strife	24,800,000	2,000	.04

This table makes it clear that the most dangerous roles to play, by far, were those of an American soldier in Vietnam in 1968 or a gay man in San Francisco at the height of the AIDS epidemic. The mortality was truly staggering—one in every 40 soldiers killed, and one in every 55 gay men dead, in a mere year. By comparison, the lethality of the Lebanese civil war, or of the violent world of young black men in our "murder capital," are only about one-sixth as much. And the worlds of the rebellious Palestinians or of the quarrelsome Northern Irish (to say nothing of the South African blacks) seem subdued: perhaps one-twentieth as dangerous as the Lebanese or Washingtonians, and barely one-hundredth as lethal as for the gay San Franciscans or Vietnam "grunts." Needless to say, there are many forms of suffering and brutality other than death, but we shall leave the comparative analysis of these to another essay.

The main lesson to be drawn is that some situations are not as lethal as they are made to appear in the newspapers or on TV. With a certain vigor of publicity, one individual's death can assume an importance in the popular mind a thousand times—or a million times—more than another individual's death. The public relations value of heroism or martyrdom, or the evasions of shame or social distance, distort our sense of proportion. Thus, if people were asked to give a "ranking of risk" for the above seven situations, they would be unlikely to get them in the right order. ▼

## R&R

The following was sent to Ed Krampf, general manager of KITS-FM.

★ Mr. Krampf:

As a member of the gay community, I was shocked to hear of your decision to hire Perry Stone as your morning DJ. I cannot believe you did not know of his unsavory past and am therefore forced to conclude that this action is an out-and-out attack on not just the lesbian and gay community but also on the black, the Hispanic, and the Jewish communities of the Bay Area. To my knowledge, Mr. Stone has been fired from two radio stations for his bigoted broadcasts.

The FCC complaint filed against Perry Stone was signed by representatives from numerous minority organizations. Obviously he has insulted a great many people, albeit minorities. In San Francisco, if I'm not mistaken, minorities account for 51 percent of the population. Won't that affect your audience somewhat?

Statistically it would be difficult to prove to what degree Mr. Stone's broadcasts have contributed to the alarming rise in hate crimes in the Bay Area, but let me assure you such programs do have an impact. In our culture, disc jockeys are worshipped as heroes, and their opinions are borrowed by many. As a Germanist, I know that Adolf Hitler got himself elected by using the radio. His "shock jock" was Joseph Goebbels. Growing up in Birmingham, Alabama, in the sixties, I was well aware of the terror generated by the KKK. Were there not Perry Stones in Alabama then? When I lived in Columbus, Ohio, I was twice attacked on the street; one incident was clearly homophobic, the other may have been racist. I know that the local disc jockeys often poked fun at the lesbian and gay community.

If, Mr. Krampf, it is an audience of white supremacists, neo-Nazis, and fascist skinheads that you seek, then you have hired the right man in Perry Stone. In your press conference you stated that Mr. Stone had shown remorse and you expressed the desire that the healing process should begin. I applauded this statement and earnestly hope you will give your new DJ a lot of time off for recuperation. In my opinion, he is a very sick man.

James I. Dye, Jr.  
San Francisco

## A Misguided Plan

The following was sent to Mayor Art Agnos.

★ Dear Mayor Agnos,

One of the reasons we voted for you was your opposition to a downtown stadium and your desire to protect the quality of life in San Francisco. We are Potrero Hill homeowners and are particularly afraid of the increased noise, litter, congestion, traffic, parking difficulties and the glaring lights that the stadium will bring.

As long-time San Francisco residents, we believe that your support of this project is unconscionable, particularly after your promise to oppose it. We recognize your concern for the financial well being of the city, but urge you to block this misguided plan, which will destroy the appeal and charm of San Francisco.

Robert Lieber  
Judith Ogus  
Jim Van Buskirk  
Cynthia Wilson  
San Francisco

## Whistle Stop

★ In the "ACT UP, CUAV Hold Forum on Anti-Gay Violence" article in the August 17 issue of *Bay Area Reporter*, most points are certainly appropriate to the discussion of what we as a community might choose to do individually and collectively to counteract homophobic violence.

However, there is a seemingly small error of historical fact. The reporter, Dennis McMillan, professes that several self-defense groups have fallen apart. While it is true that CUAV and Gay Guards (not Castro Guards) tried and failed within weeks to consistently staff street patrols in the Castro area, these groups then gave up such efforts.

In the case of the Butterfly Brigade, its initial purpose was not so much to patrol or guard but to serve as an example of just how members of the community might defend themselves and protect each other from acts of street violence. In the beginning it was decided that once the community began to emulate the Brigade's responsive example, the Brigade would, by prearrangement, disband. After nine months of weekend corner-standing-and-watching by the Brigade, the community did and has continued (unfortunately, not always) to respond to acts of street violence, whether homophobically motivated or otherwise.

The point here is not Dennis McMillan's minor historical inaccuracy but rather to bring up the fact that no group of people, whether paid or volunteer, can ever hope to protect any community from random acts of violence. Only the people can do it because only the people are there all the time.

For those who do not know (or may have forgotten) about the Brigade's exemplary response and CUAV's continued advocacy of the "Whistle System," here it is:

Everyone buy, own and carry a whistle with you at all times. When (your or) anyone is being attacked... *blow like all hell!!!!* Whenever you hear the alarm, run... do not walk... *run* to help, all the while reaching for your whistle—ready to *blow like all hell!!!!* (Yelling "Help" does not work!)

Remember that the "Whistle System" is, in and of itself, only an alarm, and that when we all do it together it is safe, sane, legal and it works. Of course, someone who is far from the alarm and/or near a phone might choose to call the police, although if the police are close enough to be of any real assistance, they are close enough to hear our whistles blasting ever louder as more of us respond. *Blow!* Of course, how and if any of us initiates or responds to the alarm, it is always a personal choice and a matter of individual conscience and responsibility.

Finally, bashers are bullies (read-cowards) and are easily stopped by simply being outnumbered. Never wait for someone else to sound the alarm.

P.S. Would John Wahl or someone please publicize how one might join GLB Defense Institute?

Martin Van Horne  
San Francisco

## Unprofessionalism

★ What the hell is going on at the *Bay Area Reporter*? The lack of professionalism in running cartoons that are denigrating to women in general and lesbians in particular is embarrassing and completely undermining of the newspaper's credibility.

The latest homophobic cartoon, titled "Lesbian Blood" (Aug. 24) looks like something I would expect to see in a Jerry Falwell newsletter. It reinforces every misconceived stereotype of lesbian and gay individuals that our community has been trying to undo for the past 20 years.

I always eschew the *Bay Area Reporter* during political campaigns due to its simplistic and adolescent name-calling of candidates with whom it doesn't agree. Now we have to be subjected to bigoted viewpoints within our own ranks?

It was sad enough when the *Sentinel* was turned into a high school newspaper just when it was becoming one of the most professional newspapers in the Bay Area. This new turn at your newspaper makes me wonder if anyone looks at what you print before you go to press. I expect that women and men who like and respect women will now stop reading the *B.A.R.* I would also expect that your cartoons have made it onto the bulletin boards of every right-wing fundamentalist organization in the state. Keep up the bad work—perhaps someone will come along and replace you with a professional newspaper.

Krandall Kraus  
San Francisco

## Undermining Progress

★ When I saw the "What weird new lesbian religion" cartoon in the August 10 issue, I looked for some indication that it had originally been published in the *Contra Costa Times*. Then I looked to see if the cartoonist was named Dannemeyer or Helms. When it finally hit me that the (interestingly) unsigned drawing was actually accepted and presented by the *Bay Area Reporter* editorial staff, I was shocked.

Regardless of what the truth might be about Lynn Griffiths, that cartoon is an affront to all lesbians. I know a number of gay men found it offensive, too.

That one drawing has undermined much of the progress your paper has made in the last few years in the area of coverage of lesbian/women's issues. Maybe, in this case, the pen is mightier than the shovel.

M. Janet Allen  
Albany

## Smoke-Free Nights

★ Since cigarettes hurt the immune system, and since even breathing other people's smoke is harmful, isn't it time for some of our bars to have smoke-free nights? If business is terrible on those nights, you could go back to the old ways. But I feel that the community will respond to a healthy environment.

What the bar owners are saying now, in so many words, is that if you are HIV-positive, and care about your health, you need not go to our bars.

It's time for a change.

Jeff Levy  
Berkeley

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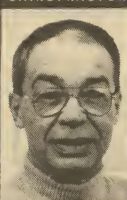
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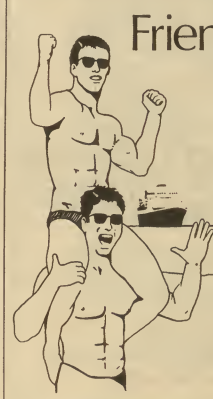
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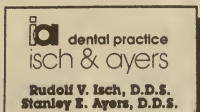
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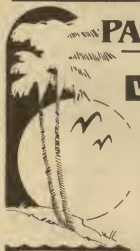
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## Happy, not Proud

★ Here's one male who quarrels with M.J. Murphy's criticism (August 24) of Ann Landers for writing that "because of the way society views homosexuality, most would, if they had a chance, be straight." Sad, maybe, but true. I contribute to GLAAD and regard its purposes and achievements to be laudable. I usually concur in its public statements.

I am not, and I doubt that many gays are, "proud to be homosexual." To feel pride in anything, one must have done something, usually against odds, to achieve that something. If any pride—or condemnation—is warranted for homosexuality it belongs to the Creator who gave one that sexual orientation. The Creator, not I, earns whatever pride is involved in my being homosexual.

I—as well as others—can be proud of having accepted that orientation and worked to combat, to the extent of God-given abilities, the homophobia poured on so many of God's children. I am happy—not proud—that my children and grandchildren accept my gayness and support my work.

Let's not—as a gay woman or man—express pride in being gay. Let's be happy to be gay if we can, and let's always express pride in whatever work we do to combat homophobia.

**Fred R. Methered**  
Honolulu

## Support Group

★ I am one of seven gay men who formed a support group four months ago for men testing seronegative. We meet each Thursday evening, 7:30-9, to discuss, share and dish the events, problems, stresses, and joyful moments of our lives as they relate to our being seronegative men coping with the epidemic. Specific themes we have focused in on include survivor guilt, dating, sex anxieties, and attempts at long-range life planning. The group is leaderless but semi-structured. If you're interested or want more information, please call Joe or Loren at 647-8089 and leave your name and number. Thanks.

**Joe Balducchi**  
San Francisco

## Access for Gay Athletes

★ Your paper should have received, in the last few days, our proposals for better gay access to the Eureka Valley Community Center.

Part of the reason that the proposal exists is in reaction to the article that was written by Dennis McMillan a few weeks ago. His article clearly represented the need for the gay sporting community to respond to the needs of our athletes. The facts illustrate the shortage of opportunities that exist at that facility is currently used.

Thank you for publishing an article that was badly needed!

**Tony Jasinski**  
San Francisco

## Dr. Day's Resignation

★ As a practicing orthopedist in San Francisco, I greeted with some satisfaction and welcomed the news of Dr. Lorraine Day's resignation as chief of the Department of Orthopedics at San Francisco General Hospital.

Dr. Day had been in an extremely sensitive and powerful position as chief of a major department of one of the most innovative academic centers treating HIV disease; a position where she could have done much good. Unfortunately, she has misused this pedestal of power, and has done more harm than good in fighting the ravages of this disease. Her personal remarks, her association with Rep. Dannemeyer, her talks and quasi-lectures have been punctuated with mistruths, distortions of facts, and a paranoid disregard for the extensive research and knowledge accumulated over the past decade, appearing to arise from a profound and overwhelming personal fear of contracting this virus.

At best, she has been an embarrassment to all the compassionate and caring health care providers working at San Francisco General Hospital; and unfortunately most of the time has done much harm in the slow battle to promote sound, rational, and educated responses to fight this virus.

Time and again, she has attempted to portray herself as a "victim" of AIDS: ostracized, isolated, and mocked by the majority of the medical community. Let us, however, not forget that the true sufferers (not "victims") of this diabolical virus are not the fortunate physicians, nurses or technicians, but those who have been infected with and are bravely fighting this virus. While it is true that those of us involved in providing direct care to our patients and friends are at some risk in contracting this virus, it is the

price we chose to pay to be compassionate, caring individuals.

I can only hope that someday soon Lorraine Day will open her ears, eyes and soul to the truth, to the compassion and caring and love associated with treating and helping those individuals infected with HIV. For those of us who have chosen to be involved, despite the pain and the losses, it has been a time of immeasurable insight, personal growth, and a test of commitment to humanity; all from which this rather blind physician has been self-excluded.

Let us hope that in whatever position she moves on to, that she will be able to see and enjoy some of that incredible love and caring to which we have been luckily exposed.

**Leonard A. Simpson, M.D.**  
San Francisco

## Ambiguity

★ I wish the passengers on the J-Church would dress with less sexual ambiguity. I can't figure out which ones to cruise!

**John-Michael Olexy**  
San Francisco

## Good Press, Bad Press

★ I would like to respond to a letter you received from David J. Winters of New York, in which he said that he had to supper with the *New York Native*.

I myself think it is the worst gay newspaper in the U.S. with a woeful lack of talent working for it.

There is no need for Mr. Winters to get the *Bay Area Reporter* only when he goes to San Francisco.

I buy it every week at the Oscar Wilde bookstore on Christopher Street. They also have "freebies" of the Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Maine papers. Some of these other papers I mention are small by comparison but the *New York Native* "talent bin" (ha ha!) ought to read them in detail and find out how to publish a good paper.

The *Bay Area Reporter* is my favorite paper because it gives all the news in detail and I know what's going on all over these United States and the world.

Thanks for a job well done, and my congratulations to all the staff.

**Hank J. Hurst**  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

## Autumn

★ Too ill they think I am,  
for garb so garish,  
of crimson cloth and purple hue.

and others than he, if they had their way  
would wrap me up in gray alpaca  
or in somber black.

Why only look about  
and you will see  
that nature, in her wisdom  
otherwise decrees: the trees  
bid all their leaves to  
flaunt their brightest splendor,  
and in this guise,  
take one last gay holiday  
before they die.

Dedicated to Ivan J. Silverberg, M.D., Davies  
Medical Center, a rare man of compassion, with both  
intelligence and wisdom.

**David P. Steward, MSW**  
San Francisco

## Service Me

★ The comments from Randy Griffiths (Aug. 24) about bartenders' attitudes are 100 percent correct. They do think they are doing you a favor by waiting on you. However, bartenders are not the only problem. The question you have to keep asking yourself in this city is: Who is the customer? Whether you are in a supermarket, post office, department store, etc., there is no such thing as service with or without a smile. Over and over again the attitude is, Don't bother me, I'm busy. What is interesting is that I can't see how these people can be "busy" when everything they do is in slow motion.

The service people in this city don't know the meaning of the word hustle. What all of them need is a lesson in service and a good, swift kick in the ass.

**Ronald E. Bayles**  
San Francisco

## Stars with Backaches

★ I'm writing in response to the letter from Randy Griffiths in the Aug. 24 issue of *Bay Area Reporter* regarding the "attitude" of San Francisco bartenders.

I have yet to see a bar that was ever designed with the working ease of the bartenders in mind, and that's one of the reasons we see as many as we do with back problems. We believe in patronizing our patients, and when I've been to the bars where they work, I've never been aware of any attitude from them or their co-workers. But I'm not *looking* for it and that might just be why I'm not seeing it. We all have our bad days, and I can't think of a more stressful situation than a bar full of patrons clamoring for service. And I'm curious, Randy, do you always greet your bartender with a smile? It works both ways, you know!

And wake up and smell the coffee—we're not back in the '50s and '60s! You can't hang on to the past—and naturally AIDS has taken its toll as well. And you don't know what's going on with your bartender. Maybe he's concerned about a former bartender who's now on the AIDS ward, or possibly his own lover is dying of AIDS. Walk a mile in their moccasins before you and your "horde of recent visitors" pass judgment on them. They're all individuals and should be judged as individuals.

Yes, Randy, those bartenders are stars in their own right just as you and I are in this constellation called "life," and I encourage you to start looking for the beauty in those stars—as well as the one hopefully smiling back from your mirror.

Glenn Schmoll  
Houser Chiropractic Office  
San Francisco

## Imagine

★ Imagine the Castro Theatre playing a double feature of *Predator* and *Rocky VII*.

Imagine the site of the old Elephant Walk turning into the Hard Rock Cafe.

Imagine Friday night in the Castro being like Friday night in the "new South of Market."

Imagine trying to get a rally or demonstration together on the corner of 18th and Castro and having the neighbors object to the noise.

Imagine what will happen to our neighborhood if the current trend of migrating yuppies continues.

Bill Johnson  
San Francisco

## Colonization of the Castro

★ Why is it when a gay person moves into the Sunset district, he/she is harassed, threatened and stoned? But when three female co-workers of mine (who giggle and twitter while looking down their noses at gay men and lesbians) go apartment-hunting on 18th and Noe, they are welcomed with open arms?

I am tired of the colonization of the Castro by "Progressive Straights" who are "willing to put with gays." They don't understand—and aren't willing to understand—the mores of our community. You know the expression, "There goes the neighborhood...?" Well once the gay Castro is gone, it's gone forever.

Until straight people understand why an oppressed group needs to have its own identity, they shouldn't be encouraged to move into the Castro.

Allen Jeffries  
San Francisco

## Huey Newton's Legacy

★ The tragic August 22 death of Huey Newton of Oakland, the co-founder of the Black Panthers, is a vivid reminder of the radicalism of the late 1960s and very early 1970s which transformed the civil rights movement into a social demand, not for tolerance and social acceptance, but for individual and social liberation from a structurally-oppressive racism in the United States.

As the 1960s begin to move into historical perspective, social historians of the black, native American, women's and gay liberation movements will be able to trace the primary causal link between the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s and these several liberation movements. Only then will it become clear whether the Black Panthers' radicalization was a necessary foundational social environment for the spontaneous first Stonewall Riot of the night of June 27-28, 1969 by largely black and Puerto Rican young gay men.

Huey Newton publicly embraced the Gay Liberation Front movement in August 1970 in a manifesto to the Black Panthers: "There's nothing to say that a homosexual cannot be a revolutionary... Quite on the contrary, maybe a homosexual could be the most revolutionary."

Although Huey Newton's insight concerning the basic unity of the black, native American, women's and gay liberation struggles for social justice failed to win many converts beyond the committed ranks of the New Left radicals within these several movements, the Gay Liberation Front of 1969 to 1971 has left, as its enduring legacy, the creation of the Stonewall Riots as the very symbol of the not-to-be-denied demand of gay men and gay women worldwide for their full and open rights as citizens.

Most gay Bay Area residents today have forgotten, if they ever knew, that the New Left radicals within the short-lived Gay Liberation Front (whose Bay Area chapter was primarily centered in the politicalized radicalism of Oakland and Berkeley), actually symbolized the Stonewall Riots into the Boston Tea Party of gay liberation.

This symbol has been a magnet which has continually empowered each arriving generation of gay men and gay women to come out of their closets—and will continue to do so until gay liberation becomes a reality within the United States and throughout the world.

Meanwhile, we should remember with gratitude Huey Newton because it is just possible that without him the Stonewall Riots might not have taken place.

James Francis Gibbons  
San Leandro

## State Discrimination

★ It's illegal for employers to discriminate, but not for the state of California. If an employer discriminates against an employee, the state of California will raise hell with the employer—yet the state of California has the right to openly discriminate itself.

I recently was involved in a series of events that took place almost all at once. First my roommate was laid off. Second our landlord said, "Your lease is up."

We tried to rent another place in the Bay Area but found the cost to be anywhere from \$2,000-\$3,000 for what we wanted, so my roommate found a job in the Valley after checking out the rent situation. We found we could relocate housing for about \$1,000 and it was far superior to what we had seen in the Bay Area.

I left my job in Silicon Valley and applied for unemployment. It was denied and I filed for an appeal after calling the local unemployment office. I asked a few important questions. I said, "If my wife was transferred to Fremont and I worked for a small print shop and couldn't get a transfer, what would happen to my unemployment?" Yes, the answer was simple: "You should have no problem receiving it."

When I went to the appeal hearing I told the above story and added that I couldn't afford financially to live in the Bay Area by myself (not that I would think of it). I was told that I had left my job without good cause and that's why my unemployment check was denied. I appealed on the grounds that I was gay and I was being discriminated against. At the appeal hearing I was told, "You're not legally married by law—and denied unemployment services."

Your readers should beware—I was told by many that I should lie, that the truth would only bring me problems.

I am 50 years old and have lived with discrimination for many years. Yes, it has improved but it's still there, especially by the state of California. The state of California does not discriminate when it requires unemployment to be withheld from your weekly payroll deduction, but they sure do when you apply for it.

There's another typical example of what's good for the straight is not necessarily good for gays. The new partnership act is a hoax.

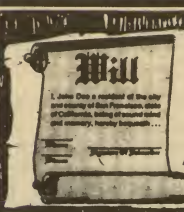
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Fresno

## Art as Problem

★ Because Congress is funding the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), it argues it has the right to dictate the contents of the artwork supported. But Congress is funding with tax dollars, your tax money, my tax money and every taxpayer's money. I don't want homophobic Republican right-winger Jesse Helms or Congress, for that matter, deciding for me what is or is not art, what is offensive or otherwise. Congress is not representing all viewpoints when it applies "limits"; funding only that which is finds agreeable. Democratic ideals are nurtured by supporting free expression for all citizens.

Controversial art stimulates, forces each of us to solidify or redefine our beliefs, creates passionate dialogue. Consider the result of "legislated" art—safe, non-offensive to any group. Pabulum. If that's what you enjoy, then go behind the Iron Curtain and feast!

Ed Dollak  
San Francisco



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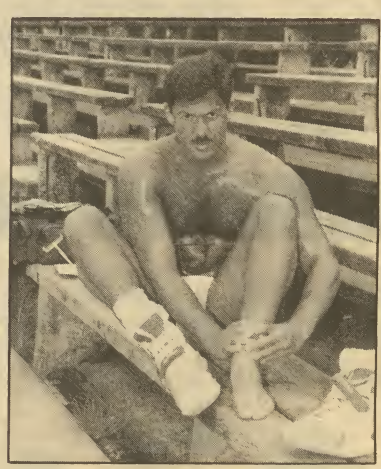
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## MURPHY'S MANOR



## Wayne Friday

# Politics and Poker

**M**edical authorities across the nation were talking this week about the revelation by former President Reagan's physician that Reagan paid little attention to the AIDS epidemic, having never grasped the seriousness of the disease until nearly six years after it began killing thousands of Americans.

Dr. John Hutton, a brigadier general in the Army, who served as a White House physician from 1984 to 1986, and personal physician to the president from 1986 until this past January, told reporters recently that Reagan barely took notice of how devastating the AIDS epidemic was becoming until he saw a news report in July 1985 that actor Rock Hudson, a friend of the Reagan family, had gone to Paris for treatment of the disease.

Hutton says that Reagan watched a televised news report on Hudson while recovering from cancer surgery and called the doctor in to tell him about "this disease AIDS."

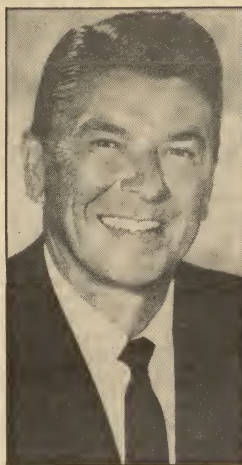
This was nearly six years after the disease had been identified, had killed thousands of Americans and had infected tens of thousands more.

Hutton said that after his lengthy explanation of AIDS to the president, Reagan said: "I always thought the world might end in a flash [nuclear blast], but this sounds like it's worse."

Prior to the conversation with his doctor, the Reagan administration had often been criticized for its inaction and for being slow in responding to the epidemic with support for research and AIDS education money; in 1986, such support increased substantially.

Hutton, a respected Army physician, who now commands the Madigan Army Medical Center in Washington, said that when Reagan was asked by private citizens and the media as to what should be done about the growing AIDS epidemic, he [Reagan] would often respond that money might not be the answer, and would say things like "Is there a message in this?... like, perhaps, people are supposed to modify their behavior." Hutton said the president himself was tested for the AIDS virus in January 1987, after having minor surgery, and proved negative, but it was the last time he ever heard the AIDS epidemic discussed in the presence of the president.

In light of these revelations of Reagan's ignorance of the worst medical epidemic in recent history, I find it just as surprising that



Ronald Reagan

medical people now are so astounded at Reagan's indifference; I mean, what else should we expect of the narrow-minded son-of-a-bitch who sat in the White House during the years that this vicious disease got out of control? Surely, we must expect more from George Bush; time will tell...

## Frank Fallout

The political fallout continued this week in Washington and in U.S. Rep. Barney Frank's home state of Massachusetts concerning the congressman's recent admission that he at first paid then befriended a male prostitute who ended up plying his trade for a year from Frank's Washington home.

Frank says he did not know the male hooker, who he hired as a "personal aide," was in fact running a whorehouse from his D.C. apartment, but the prostitute, one Stephen Gobie, says the congressman not only knew, but seemingly approved. Frank now will be the subject of an investigation by the House Ethics Committee.

While Frank, long considered to be one of the House's brightest and hardest-working members, was facing what Massachusetts political writers were calling the spiciest political scandal since Sen. Ted Kennedy drove off a bridge in Chappaquiddick, and while it was originally thought that the storm would blow over, Frank now finds himself in deep political waters.

The Frank scandal, which is still getting daily headlines in his own state, has apparently rejuvenated a Republican Party in

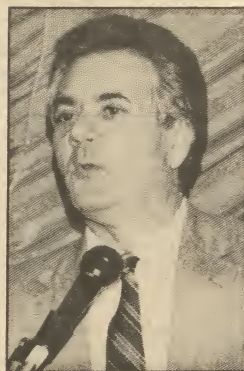
Massachusetts that has, for all practical purposes, been dead for the past years. Some of Frank's strongest allies are now saying privately that Frank's political future is in doubt. One Boston radio station talk show host who ran a poll on Frank's political future said that while he heard no homophobic reaction to the congressman's embarrassing predicament, "even among Mr. Frank's most ardent supporters there is deep skepticism... they're baffled as to how he made such an incredibly dumb judgment because Frank has assiduously cultivated the image of a street-wise liberal."

In Everett, Mass., a blue-collar city, the all-Democrat City Council this week asked the congressman to resign, but in Newton, Mass., Frank's hometown, Mayor Ted Mann, a Republican, said, "It's an ugly mess for Barney, but he's been very effective representing our community... most people were impressed with his forthrightness."

Last year Republicans in Frank's district ran unsuccessfully a conservative woman, an organizer for one-time presidential candidate Pat Robertson, against the congressman. But Republicans in his district, newly invigorated by the prostitute sex scandal, are already looking for a better-known, well-financed candidate to oppose the beleaguered Democrat in 1990. Even Frank's supporters are feeling he has a lot of political repair work to do to win re-election next year.

Congressman Frank has been a first-rate representative to the people in his district and the state of Massachusetts as well, and should be re-elected easily; he does, however, have a credibility problem to overcome, and for that he has no one to blame but himself. One's personal life is just that—personal, however, when you are in public life as is a congressman, you cannot allow

(Continued on page 20)



Congressman Barney Frank.

(Photo: Rink)

by Kurt Erichsen

## A Summer Valentine

I am on the cutting edge of practically nothing. Whatever I discover, others have inevitably discovered long before me. That's why I'm not surprised that it took me all summer to attend an outdoor gathering of Gay Men's Sketch at Hibernia Beach in the Castro. Considering my inclination toward lethargy, it's a miracle I made it at all.

If watching a group of artists sketch nearly-nude models at one of the busiest intersections of the city appeals to you, forget it. The event I attended the final Sunday in August was the group's last public sketch. Voyeurs and curiosity-seekers like myself, therefore, must go elsewhere for thrills, cheap or otherwise.

However, those who consider the body a source of artistic inspiration as well as of pleasure need not despair, for the members of Gay Men's Sketch will continue to meet at their usual location, a South of Market flat, as they have for the past two and a half years. Summer's end will not put a stop to that—only to the public exhibitions in the Castro, where art and erotic guerrilla street theater become one.

According to Mark I. Chester, the founder of Gay Men's Sketch, "The exhibitions grew out of my anger and rage over the health crisis. There doesn't seem to be much joy on the street any more. Things feel dead here. It's all panhandlers and political action groups saying, 'Gimme gimme gimme.' It used to be so different.

"I remember a group of gay belly dancers, for instance, who appeared on the street in the late '70s. They sent a shock wave of energy through the ever-present crowds that was incredible. Things like that happened all the time. I miss it.

"The public sketches are my way of putting a little love and positive energy back into the Castro. It's my Valentine to the community. And it works. Just watch the people's reactions when they spot our models. They're not expecting it; they don't know how to deal with it. Some just ignore

it and walk by. Others giggle. Still others stop to watch or to take photographs. It's wonderful!"

Indeed, as I watched the small group of artists sketching the scantily clad model near the sidewalk, I was intrigued as much by the passing crowd as I was by the matter at hand. A young man inspecting T-shirts at the ACT UP table a few feet away cast a discreet glance—a glance of covert longing and desire—at the model's bare ass. Two women exiting the 24-Divisadero bus burst out laughing. An astonished cyclist halted abruptly and stared. For all of us, I thought, it was as pleasant a way as any to spend a moment or two in the afternoon.

Chester interrupted my reverie to note, "We've really tried to make this a warm, friendly and supportive environment. Our models range in age, race, body type and level of professional experience. Not all are white, blond, blue-eyed bodybuilders. We don't use female models, but women artists have joined us, including one self-proclaimed Gray Panther. As a result, this is a free and open, non-exploitive environment—the perfect place to further the goals I had when I started the group—to create a place where gay men would feel comfortable learning to draw the male nude."

Group member Jim Campbell agreed. A self-trained artist who joined Gay Men's Sketch at its inception, he attended nearly all the Sunday summer sketches. At first he found it difficult to draw in public. "There was a lot of intense distractive energy," he said. "I spent a lot of time people-watching—more than drawing sometimes. But I got used to that."

The main benefit of the Sunday sessions, Campbell said, was simply the chance to practice what he joined the group to do—to draw men. "Most of the models at other classes are women," he explained. "It's nice to work with them too, but this is different."

Campbell does not only draw



Modeling for Gay Men's Sketch on Hibernia Beach.

nudes, of course. The notebook he showed me was filled with abstract cityscapes and pastoral views of Land's End. But the nudes were my favorites, I told him. So, with a flourish, he ripped out a close-up of the model's torso and gave it to me as a souvenir. Then he returned to his drawing.

At the break, I spoke briefly with the model, Pierre Nadeau,

who threw an orange jumpsuit over his black posing strap—for warmth, no modesty, surely—and squatted on the pavement. Although Nadeau had never modeled before his involvement with Gay Men's Sketch, he is no stranger to the performing arts. He is well-known in the community for his work on the trapeze as well as on the stage of the Campus Theater. He found out

about Gay Men's Sketch through flyers on the street, and he has posed for the group approximately ten times.

Although Nadeau gets paid an hourly wage plus tips for his work, money is not the main reason he poses. "I enjoy being a statue," he admitted as he relaxed in the sun. "But I like to think of it as more than that. Posing is similar to the work I do on the trapeze or on stage. Every pose is like a picture or a frame in a movie. I try to convey a feeling or a mood when I pose. It makes the work come alive, not only for me, but also, hopefully, for the artists, who each see different things in what I do."

Physically, posing is difficult, acknowledged Nadeau, but not nearly as difficult as his trapeze work. Besides, he's used to it. He is also used to the attention he receives by performing in public. "It makes no difference to me," he said. "I hear people talk, but other than that, I don't notice them. Instead, I meditate."

I meditated too, after Nadeau climbed back up on his pedestal—not on posing or drawing or even writing this article, but on Mark Chester's stated goal—"to put a little love and positive energy back into the Castro." I could not help but conclude that, for a few Sundays in the summer at least, he succeeded. I had such a good time that afternoon that I was reluctant to leave the street, and lemme tell ya, it's been a long time since I've felt that way. That's why, when a cake bearing the likeness of the model appeared, I stayed long enough to eat the crotch. Well, somebody had to do it. ▼

### Marks Appoints 2 Gay Staffers

State Sen. Milton Marks (D-San Francisco/Marin) has announced the appointment of two new staff members, Mike Bosia and Paul Herman, in his San Francisco district office. Both have extensive experience on lesbian/gay and AIDS issues.

Bosia recently assumed the position of district coordinator in the San Francisco office, where

he will supervise the senator's district staff and serve as community liaison. He worked in Marks' State Capitol office as legislative coordinator for five years.

Herman is Marks' new liaison to the lesbian/gay community and AIDS service organizations. Most recently, he served as public policy assistant for Dr. Marcus Conant, a leading physician and researcher on AIDS. ▼

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## NATIONAL FREEDOM MAP

But is it at all likely that will ever happen?

In the era of the Reagan court, Hyde believes that things can only get worse for lesbians and gay men. Which, of course, doesn't bode well for several gay-related cases—including the precedent-setting military discrimination *Watkins v. U.S. Army* case—which are now floating toward the high court.

That doesn't leave a whole lot of room for optimism. So for now, the strategy on sodomy issues is twofold.

First, gay and lesbian activists mourn the anniversary; then they mobilize to attack sodomy laws on a state level.

For months now, Hyde has been organizing local groups across the nation to commemorate the *Hardwick* decision with an effort called the National Day of Mourning for the Right to Privacy.

In at least 14 cities nationwide, activists will be commemorating the historic defeat and directing media attention to the decision that allowed lawmakers to legislate their bedroom activity.

Since the 1986 decision, many of the sodomy repeal efforts have been played out in

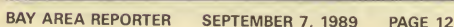
state courts, often times through legal challenges involving upstanding members of the gay and lesbian community (and sometimes heterosexual couples and disabled persons) recruited to claim injury from the presence of these laws. Such cases are now pending in Texas, Minnesota and Michigan courts.

The most visible of the present state court efforts is the Michigan challenge, being handled in large part by the New York-based Lambda Legal

Defense and Education Fund.

Filed on the second anniversary of the *Hardwick* decision in 1988, the broad-based case also involves heterosexuals and the disabled, whose sex lives are also affected by the Michigan felony statute.

Filed shortly after the *Hardwick* defeat in 1986, a "recruits" case challenging Nevada's sodomy statute was quickly thrown out of court on a technicality. No new challenge has been filed there since.



A new case challenging Georgia's sodomy law was recently filed by the Georgia American Civil Liberties Union at a Day of Mourning action in Atlanta. The case involves a heterosexual man who was sent to jail for two years based on testimony from his ex-wife during divorce proceedings in which she described being a willing partner in non-vaginal sex with him.

A major problem faced by other sodomy law challenges, however, is that occasionally they come in the form of criminal cases, as in a 1988 Minnesota court challenge that involved a 45-year-old man who bought sex from a 16-year-old male who presented himself as an adult. That case eventually was decided on a technicality and left open the question of an unconstitutional invasion of the right to privacy, paving the way for the present case, which involves recruited non-criminal candidates.

Probably the best tool with which to attack these laws, Hyde says, is a state privacy law, which would easily allow state courts to find sodomy laws unconstitutional on privacy grounds. However, only two states have both sodomy and privacy laws side by side: Florida and Montana.

In Montana, Hyde has found little interest from the state's dissipated gay and lesbian community, which has left that state law unchallenged. And in Florida, efforts headed up by the loosely formed Florida Right to Privacy Committee have suffered two false starts and now stand no further than they did two years ago when the effort was first considered.

#### Legislative Challenges

The other place in which to challenge these laws, Hyde says, is in state legislatures. But there, things have been even tougher.

In fact, the only real change since *Hardwick* has been a change in Tennessee's sodomy statute, which dropped the "crime" from a heterosexual/homosexual felony to a Class C homosexual-specific misdemeanor, punishable by a \$25 fine.

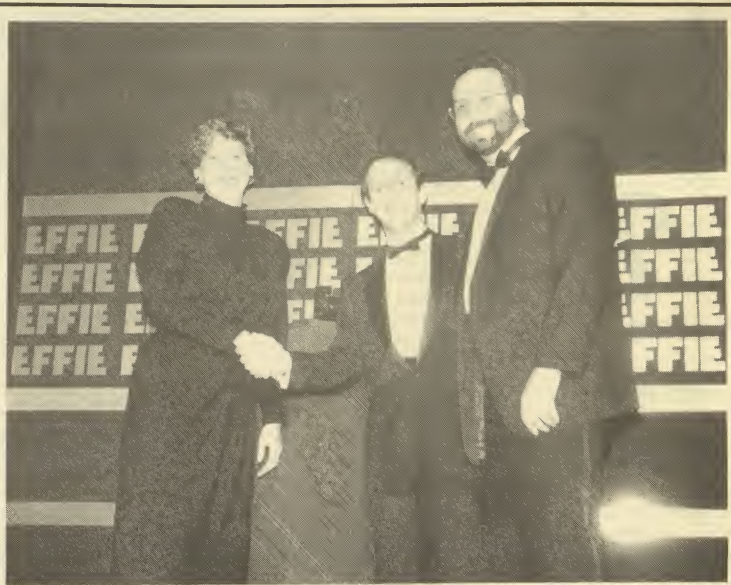
This, according to legal activists, although continuing to stigmatize gay and lesbian sex, could open the door to a court challenge to the statute on equal protection grounds.

Otherwise, nothing has really changed since 1986.

In many states legislative repeal efforts have met with stiff resistance from skittish lawmakers. Maryland, seen as the state with the best chances for repealing such a law, saw its state Senate quickly approve a repeal bill in 1987, only to have it die in the state House Judiciary Committee that year.

The following year, efforts were concentrated on that committee but proved fruitless after a committee member held up a brochure from the North American Man/Boy Love Association as an "example" of the sort of behaviors that would become common in the state should the sodomy law be repealed and quickly quashed the bill.

"The reason that the *Hardwick* decision was such a watershed was not only did the Supreme Court declare that gay men and lesbians have no constitutional right to privacy," Hyde says, "but it... made the issue of sodomy



#### Advertising Award to Shanti

Carla Hardaway (left) of Young & Rubicam/San Francisco, and Eric Rofes (right), executive director of the Shanti Project, accept congratulations from an American Marketing Association representative after the presentation of a 1989 Effie, one of advertising's most important honors. The ad agency and Shanti shared the award for a public service campaign urging volunteer support for the AIDS organization.

laws much more real in people's minds. It was a very rude awakening for this community. It sort of shocked us back into the reality of institutionalized homophobia, not only as we know it through the AIDS epidemic, but as we know it simply as itself: Unadulterated, unadorned institutionalized homophobia. What's changed is that people now think about it."

And because sodomy laws are used by anti-gay forces to defund AIDS educational programs, deny lesbians and gay parents custody rights and to repudiate basic civil rights protections for lesbians and gay men, she feels the fight against these laws should be a basic part of every gay-related issue from AIDS funding to foster care.

"[This puts] our work and our contacts with legislators in a broader context," she adds. "I think it's very important for state legislators to realize that simply because they have dealt with AIDS legislation in their state, that it doesn't mean that the gay and lesbian community goes away. We actually have several items on our legislative agenda and we will be back." ▼



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## Homosexual Movement Called a Threat

# Gay Activists Target Helms As Congress Reconvenes

by Cliff O'Neill

August. The nation's capital turns into a veritable ghost town. Temperatures rise. Humidity soars. There is actually elbow room in the bars. And the most likely answer you'll get from the temporary receptionist answering the phone is, "I'm sorry. They're all on vacation."

But as of Tuesday, Sept. 5, the halls of Congress were again echoing with more than the sounds of tourists' camera shutters.

The backlog of legislation delayed by the John Tower controversy, the Jim Wright scandal, the savings and loan bailout and the flag burning issue finally are coming to the forefront.

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the money bills funding federal AIDS programs will be the first out of the gate. Also in the wings are bills addressing gay/lesbian and AIDS immigration, funding to the National Endowment for the Arts and the usual pack of anti-gay amendments to all of the above.

### Hate Crimes

Still, the biggest question mark on lesbian and gay issues remains the much-touted Hate Crimes Statistics Act, which would order the Department of Justice to collect statistics on crimes motivated by bias based on race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. Should the bill pass the Senate, it would become the first-ever pro-gay bill ever to pass Congress.

President Bush has pledged to sign the bill, should it pass.

The bill has already passed the House and has long since made it past the Senate's requisite committee hurdles. Now, all that remains is the Senate floor, where Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., is still not backing down from an expected anti-gay amendment.

The rider declares the "homosexual movement" a threat to the American family; demands that state sodomy laws be enforced; puts the Senate on record as against any future gay and lesbian civil rights bill, and bans the federal funding of gay-positive educational programs.

Helms has now successfully mired the bill in a holding pattern by threatening a filibuster if he is not allowed to introduce a wide array of amendments to the bill, something that is not sitting well with his colleagues.

Still, many senators are scared of Helms' tactics, and—with an election year quickly approaching—are becoming less willing to cross the wily North Carolina Republican.

To beat him back, lobbyists working on the bill are seeking to line up the needed 60 votes on a tactic to stop Helms. Although the votes are still not firm, should Helms begin to monopolize floor time as part of a revenge tactic, it is expected the 60 votes could come quickly as Helms' expected time-consuming tactic raises the ire of his colleagues.

It is considered that such a move could work to the benefit of the pro-gay forces, as it would limit Helms' time for amendments and, consequently, his

demanding votes on gay and lesbian matters. Eliminating the possibility of such votes is expected to be a perceived benefit for the campaign-minded senators.

Otherwise, the coalition of lobbyists supporting the bill has been devising strategies to defeat the expected Helms amendment and constructing contingency plans for the possibility that Helms wins.

To effect victory, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has pulled out all the stops on its home district National Lobby Days campaign where activists in senators' home districts have personally lobbied their legislators against the Helms measure. The Human Rights Campaign Fund has also successfully signed thousands onto their pre-approved Speak Out congressional message program and has already sent out hundreds of these messages.

What the effects of these strategies will have on the myriad scuttish non-committal senators remains to be seen, however, the final analysis will come when the dust clears and the casualties are counted.

### AIDS Discrimination

The best outlook on the legislative AIDS agenda appears to be in the fight for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which would finally ban AIDS discrimination on a federal level after years of calls for such a measure from public health experts, AIDS commissions and medical professionals.

Although Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., had been hoping for quick passage of the landmark civil rights bill banning discrimination on the basis of disability nationwide, committee passage was delayed by negotiations with the White House.

Seeking a bill that would ease the strain on private employers

and small businesses striving to comply with the bill's requirements for ramps and wheelchair lifts, the White House engaged Kennedy in meetings that resulted in a compromise version of the bill.

That bill was finally passed by a Senate committee in late July with the full support of the Bush administration and is expected to come to a quick vote in the Senate Sept. 7. Action on the bill has already begun in the House, which is expected to catch up to the Senate by mid-fall.

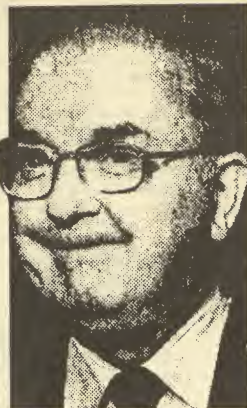
And, as always, reports have surfaced that Helms has planned to introduce a barrage of amendments weakening the bill's protections of HIV-infected persons from discrimination. President Bush has pledged to lobby against any such amendments.

### Anti-Gay Amendments

In what has become an annual ritual, gay and lesbian lobbyists are again mobilizing against expected anti-gay amendments to a variety of money bills that will soon come up before the Senate. There, Helms and a small band of anti-gay senators have historically lopped anti-gay amendments onto the Labor, Health and Human Services and District of Columbia appropriations bills. These amendments have called for bans on gay-targeted AIDS education and gay-sensitive education and counseling programs; and a religious exemption to the District of Columbia's tough gay and lesbian rights law.

At this point, the House has completed most of the rounds in the financing process without any such amendments, because of negotiation and maneuvering from key House members, most notable among them, openly gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass.

While vehemently anti-gay U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer, R-Calif., was beaten on several fronts on these amendments,



Reactionary Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.)

Helms is not expected to be defeated quite so easily. Again, he is expected to introduce his "no promo homo" AIDS education amendment, although at this point, the Senate has established a narrow precedent of rendering this measure ineffectual.

What is expected to be a problem is an amendment like the one proposed, but never successfully introduced, by Dannemeyer in the House. That rider, similar to one from Sen. Gordon Humphrey, R-N.H., last year, is targeted at counseling and education programs for gay and lesbian youth and anti-homophobia curricula in public schools.

Activists are now coordinating a first-of-its-kind educational briefing for members of Congress and staff on gay and lesbian youth in schools and the need for education that presents positive role models for them.

### Analysis

In January, it appeared that the 101st Congress would be among the busiest for gay and lesbian issues on record. Now, months later, it appears that assessment was correct, only the timing for the action was off with scandals, politicking and posturing around the flag successfully creating a legislative gridlock under the rotunda.

But with temperatures outdoors cooling, the heat in the chambers is expected to hit the boiling point when the gridlock breaks. Until the next scandal erupts.

## Frisch



## Ohio Activists Meet Rural America at State Fair

by Rex Wockner

For the twelfth consecutive year, gay and lesbian activists from Columbus, Ohio's Stonewall Union staffed an information booth this summer at the Ohio State Fair, which ran for 20 days in August.

Among much else, the booth featured a large fist sumperimposed over a pink triangle. "Silence=Death," the exhibit shouted. "We will be silent no more."

Fair officials located the booth in the main exhibit hall near "Australia Sends Its Best," this year's featured attraction.

As in the past, the booth attracted minimal opposition and provided scores of rural homosexuals with their first contact with an openly gay or lesbian person, according to fair officials and Stonewall activists.

"To my knowledge," said fair spokeswoman Jennifer Long, "we've never actually had an official complaint to the fair office."

Stonewall fair coordinator Russ Stalk said activists are approached by fundamentalist Christians "who want to talk about the Bible about twice a day. But we've trained our staff on how to deal with religious viewpoints," he said. "We give them phone numbers of Dignity and MCC."

Only once, activists said, has a group of preachers appeared to "save" booth staffers. Fair security escorted the ministers away "without our even having to ask," said Stonewall office manager Mike Dittmer.

The booth also attracts "a fair amount of snorts" from teenage boys, according to Dittmer, "but they rarely stop and take it any further."

"What we primarily accomplish," Stonewall executive director Michael McFadden said, "is outreach to rural gays and lesbians. Ohio has a remarkable number of gay groups in small towns, and the fair has something to do with it. I came here from Pittsburgh, and I've never seen anything like it in Pennsylvania."

McFadden added that "a lot of lesbian and gay people on the coasts underestimate Midwest gay communities. Columbus has a very strong community," he said, "and I know we've accomplished things that have not happened in other places."

A central feature of the booth was an Ohio state map with pins stuck into the little hometowns and villages of gay men and lesbians who visit the exhibit.

"Last year we ended up with a map of Ohio with colored pins all across the state," said Stalk. "It was featured in a TV report about gay rights as an indication that we really are everywhere. It certainly has helped organizing in rural areas."

Activists also distribute AIDS information to counteract what Dittmer called "the AIDS disinformation given out by the John Birch Society and a lot of religious groups." ▼

## Suit Charges Funeral Director with Fraud

PHILADELPHIA—A lawsuit has been filed against a suburban Philadelphia funeral director alleging that he defrauded the mother of a man who had died of AIDS. The Aug. 2 suit charges John M. Price with fraud, breach of contract, negligence, unlawful interference with a corpse, and infliction of emotional distress. It seeks punitive damages and the return of a \$2,000 deposit to the mother who was identified only as Jane Doe.

The mother had arranged with Price to conduct the funeral for her son. But Price failed to pick up the body from the hospital until immediately before the funeral, never embalmed the body as agreed, claimed that state law required special handling which cost extra, and allegedly took \$50 from the dead man's bank account.

—Au Courant

## Man Sues Over Clearance Delays

PHILADELPHIA—A man employed as a researcher for General Electric has filed suit in federal court against GE and the U.S. Department of Defense claiming that delays in his application for a security clearance have cost him his job. James Wood, 26, was hired by GE in September 1988 to work in classified research. But when his application for clearance was held up for review because he "lived a homosexual lifestyle," GE laid him off. The firm said that it could find no suitable work for Wood without the clearance.

Wood's expertise is in artificial intelligence, a field in which most job opportunities are in classified military research.

Wood's attorneys have demanded a prompt response on his application but have received no answer from the government which has not formally denied the application.

—Philadelphia Gay News

## AIDS Organizations Demand AZT Price Drop

A coalition of 16 national AIDS organizations has called for a major reduction in the price of the AIDS drug AZT. In a letter to T.E. Haigler, Jr., operations director of Burroughs Wellcome Co., which has the exclusive rights to market AZT, the coalition also called for the reauthorization and funding of the federal program that subsidizes the cost of AZT for certain individuals.

The coalition represents AIDS organizations nationally. It includes the American Foundation for AIDS Research, the Gay Men's Health Crisis, AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP New York and San Francisco), the AIDS Project Los Angeles, and Project Inform in San Francisco.

The federal government's announcement three weeks ago that AZT is shown to be effective for healthy people infected with HIV prompted the letter. The study's results effectively increased Burroughs Wellcome's market for AZT from 40,000 persons to more than 600,000.

The letter points out that HIV-

infected people face a "mounting crisis because of the high cost of AIDS health care, part of which is due to the high cost of Retrovir." Retrovir is Burroughs Wellcome's trade name for AZT. The annual cost of the drug is \$7,000 to \$8,000.

"We've been asked to pay for this drug three times," the letter states, "first in its initial development, next in financing many of the studies needed to permit its marketing, and finally to buy it from you."

The coalition also points out that the high price of Retrovir makes it "politically more difficult, if not impossible, to secure reauthorization and new funding" for the federal low-income subsidy program, which expires September 30.

"Swift and dramatic action on your part" is needed, the AIDS organizations urge. "Failure to respond to these needs could damage the reputation of the Burroughs Wellcome Foundation [BW's owner] and its related American product line." ▼

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# Dancing and Modeling Lesbians Bring Vogueing to San Francisco

by Karen M. Everett

When eight local lesbians imported New York City's gay-inspired dance fad—vogueing—to a capacity crowd at Skirts on Sunday night, their black bras, hoop earrings and haughty poses raised cheers as well as a few eyebrows among an estimated 800 women jamming the lesbian-produced club.

Defying the male roots of vogueing, eight fashion-conscious women introduced the stylized body art to a capacity crowd.

The new dance form, named after *Vogue* magazine, combines rapid, sultry poses with the rhythm of house music.

"Vogueing is a combination of models who can dance, dancers who can model," emcee Bernadette Capozzoli told the rowdy audience. "Vogueing is throwing attitude. Attitude because you're dressed fine and you move fine."

Moving to the tunes of "Bat-Dance," the dancers exuded individual styles. Kitaka, looking like singer Annie Lennox in her tux, punctuated her poses with split kicks in the air. Another poseur, Monique, inched her back up from the floor and then strutted a nose-length away from her admirers in the front row.

Regrouping into two lines, the four couples synchronized their kinetic poses to the popular hit "Bust the Move."

"These are our models out there!" said comedienne Marga Gomez. "This is not Cheryl Tiegs!"

The performers, many of them familiar faces on the lesbian club scene, were all local women. They were introduced as Mimi, Monique, Kitaka, Giselle, Daula, Prez, Franco and Carmen.

Most lesbian audience members, who may not have been used to seeing their peers celebrate beauty and fashion, reacted to the event with enthusiasm.

On a scale of one to ten, the show was "definitely a nine," according to spectator Stephanie Tamez. "I'd take a point off for the heat in this sweat bath."

"There are so many cute girls and so little time," added Kerri McGillicudd.

Another audience member pointed out a "positive political element to the partying," comparing the exhibition to a lesbian fashion show produced by Skirts earlier in the summer. "The voguers are confident, not arrogant," she said. "It's a celebration of women feeling good about themselves, an affirmation of women feeling sexy... rather than dowdy."

But some viewers thought the vogueing exhibition was pretentious. "It's too studied," said audience member Renee Etienne. "It also highlights the need to impress, a value I'm not sure is worth keeping."

Another spectator, Monique Woods, said the show was "just short of being sexist." Commenting on two poseurs who performed in black lace bras, she said, "It was degrading when the dancers started taking off their clothes."

But according to Skirts producer Mariah Hanson, 28, the unprecedented show was the "best event" she has ever produced.



Prez, a vogue dancer at Skirts.

(Photo: Phyllis Christopher)

"There's been a lot of talk about vogueing [in San Francisco], but to date no one has done it here," said Hanson. "This was an effort to keep pace with what's going on in the country."

Carmen Morrison, a popular local dance talent, choreographed and performed in the exhibition. "By being the first in the city to stage a vogueing event, the women's community is making a great statement," said Morrison. "It seems like the men always do something first and then we seem to follow. We were the forerunners with this, the innovators."

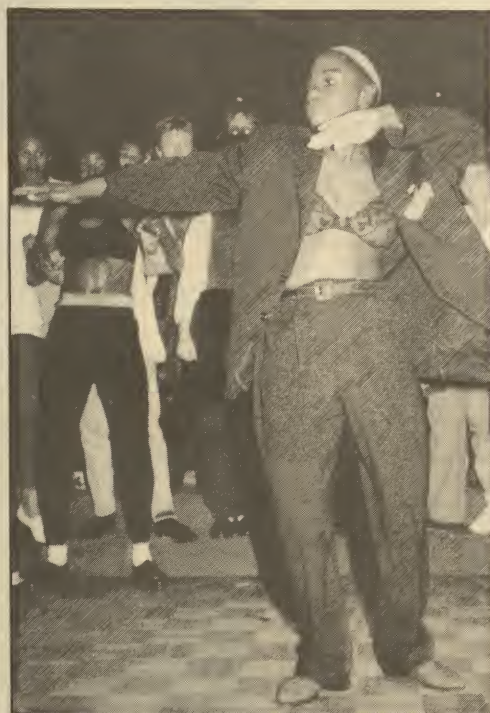
Popular in East Coast cities, vogueing originated among black and Hispanic gay men in New York City's Harlem. Vogueing culture is organized by "houses," which are modeled after famous fashion corpora-

tions such as the "House of St. Laurent." House members—generally all gay males—play "mother" or "father" or "children" roles.

Since 1987, the world of vogueing has crossed over from Harlem drag balls and street corners to popular East Coast clubs.

Now it is poised to hop the continent and explode in San Francisco, according to the local media. Vogueing recently received coverage by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Outlook Magazine* and at the Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival.

San Francisco's eight vogue dancers will perform next month during Women's Weekend at the Russian River, and again at Club Rapture, Hanson's Saturday night dance club, located at 1484 Market Street. ▼



Daula, vogueing at Skirts.

(Photo: Phyllis Christopher)



Tom Duane, left, and Dave Taylor, openly gay candidates in two separate New York City Council races in the Sept. 12 Democratic primary. Duane has received the influential editorial endorsement of the *New York Times*. (Photo: Michael Datoli)

## Candidates

(Continued from page 1)

while in office. While both men have been reelected since coming out, it's unlikely they would have been elected initially as open gays.

Although electing "our own" won't end homophobia or cure AIDS, it will ensure visibility and access. And it will mean that chummy legislative fraternizing and backroom dealmaking will be forced to include us. Those things could translate into tangible results. "Think what a big difference it would have made for the AIDS crisis if David Rothenberg had been in there," says Dave Taylor, pondering Rothenberg's loss to Greitzer four years ago. "It would have made a huge, huge difference."

Openly gay and lesbian candidates walk a tightrope. They are motivated, at least in part, by the quest for lesbian and gay visibility and empowerment. To have any credibility in the gay community, they must be strong and vocal advocates for gay and lesbian interests. But they must also prove, particularly to non-gay voters, that they are not "single-issue" candidates.

Homophobia makes some consider gays a "special interest" and wonder whether we are capable of representing the "general public." A straight Upper West Sider I know posed the question like this: "Is he a gay candidate or a candidate who is gay?" Candidates must devise ways to be loud and proud and still avoid being perceived as single-issue candidates.

Tom Duane is particularly sophisticated at raising issues of importance to lesbians and gays in a broader context. The health care crisis facing all New Yorkers frames his discussion of AIDS policy. He speaks of lease succession rights for domestic partners with an explicit recognition of the issue's importance not only to lesbians and gays, but to seniors as well. He argues for stiff penalties for bias-related crimes against women, against people of color, against lesbians and gays. "When you look at each and every issue that I represent, it's very tough to break out my being gay from other people in the com-

munity," he says. He is a consciously multi-issue candidate, always stressing interconnections.

According to Duane's campaign manager, Lisa Parrish, "One of the strategies is to hit really hard on all the other issues, and in fact there are people at times who say, 'Gee, his literature doesn't say very much about his being gay.' And that's largely because we think that if anyone on the street knows anything about Tom Duane, they know he's gay."

Duane is no newcomer to electioneering. He was elected a Democratic Party district leader in 1982 and serves on Community Board 4. He may be known for being gay, but he is also known for being at virtually every meeting on major community issues from AIDS to zoning. Regarding the day-to-day grind of a community activist, working on what he calls "pothole issues," Duane says, "Certainly nobody is going to be able to criticize me on that basis at all."

Dave Taylor is a longtime organizer, dating back to the war on poverty in the south in the sixties, but "running for office has never been my priority and I never really gave it much thought."

Taylor works as a drug rehabilitation counselor and belongs to the Hospital Workers Union, District 1199. He is president of Manhattan's major gay Democratic club, Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats, and is widely credited with building it into a viable and progressive political organization. Referring to these credentials, his campaign manager, Rachel Breen, says, "He is in an incredibly unique position to bring together the coalition to really fight AIDS on a united front." Taylor was part of the successful effort to stop Westway, an unpopular proposal for a grandiose new highway that would have run the length of Manhattan's West Side, and his face is familiar around City Hall for his persistent lobbying for increased funding for AIDS services.

When Taylor describes his vision of the council job, he downplays the behind-the-scenes access in favor of the platform it offers. "If you really want to look at how you make effective

changes in City Hall, you don't make them by going to committee meetings, and you don't make them by politicians talking to politicians—that's all very fine and you do that—but you've got to know how to muster forces and power bases and bring them to City Hall to put the pressure on to make those kinds of changes, and that's what I'm good at."

His unassuming manner makes him appear an unlikely candidate. But then, the race he's in is an unusual race, with eight contenders, seven of them straight. One other candidate, Ronnie Eldridge, has attracted considerable support among lesbian and gay voters. But Taylor remains confident. "I see momentum happening. I think we have tremendous support, especially in the activist community."

One major obstacle to lesbian and gay electoral empowerment in New York City is the size of the districts. Each council district, for instance, is comprised of more than 200,000 people, the size of many cities. This size, and the diversity within each district, favors the election of the lowest common denominator and generally disempowers lesbians and gays.

The city's Charter Revision Commission is proposing to expand the number of seats on the council from 35 to 51. Tom Duane showed up at a recent public meeting on Charter Revision and spoke compellingly of the need to expand the size of the council much more dramatically in order to obtain representation of diverse minority communities.

Not only the size of districts but the drawing of boundaries determines who is likely to be elected. In a move intended to promote minority representation

in the City Council, the Charter Revision Commission is proposing that "To the extent practicable, district lines shall keep intact neighborhoods and communities with established ties of common interest and association, whether historical, racial, economic, ethnic, religious or other." "Other" is a euphemism for lesbians and gays.

Dave Taylor observes, "There are probably three areas in this city where we can run and win: the Upper West Side, the Village/Chelsea area and Park Slope."


This is not to suggest that any candidate could win with the lesbian and gay vote alone. That is one point that every lesbian and gay candidate, past and present, seems to agree on. "If you are running as an open gay or lesbian and that's your platform, you will not win," warns Rochester City Councilor Tim Mains, the only open gay holding elected office in New York State. "You really have to have a broad base of issues." Coalitions are the name of the game, as they were for Harvey Milk, who was elected

by lesbians and gays in coalition with San Francisco labor unions.

The flip side is that candidates cannot assume the full support of the lesbian and gay community. For instance, Manhattan's Stonewall Democratic Club is opposing both Duane and Taylor and supports Mayor Ed Koch's reelection. Four years ago, the *New York Native* ran weekly attacks on David Rothenberg.

Both Duane and Taylor report that overt homophobia has been limited on the campaign trail. Duane, displaying his thick skin and pragmatism, comments, "The people who say faggot or things like that are never registered Democrats." More annoying to him has been Lynn Samuels, a radio talk show host on WABC-AM, who has repeatedly tried to cast him as a misogynist, asking, "Why do you gay men keep running against a nice, straight, decent, liberal woman?" Greitzer is a supporter of gay rights but has been criticized—by the *Times* editorial page, among others—

(Continued on page 20)



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## DEATHS

### David B. Ward

On Aug. 29, five hours before his 41st birthday, David Ward passed on peacefully in the presence of his friend Tom at Coming Home Hospice.

David had worked for 18 years for the U.S. Department of HUD, most re-

cently as an Equal Opportunity Specialist. His charming wit and generous manner made him one of the most beloved employees at HUD's San Francisco Office.

David's community work included being a former board member at the Pride Foundation and the bingo caller at Pride's bingo night. After his March 1987 AIDS diagnosis, David became active with MCC's AIDS ministry and led a support group for people facing life-threatening illnesses.

David was proud to be a gay man. His

way was to be gentle with the world, yet make a bold statement about who he was. David was never ashamed of his illness.

During the last weeks of his life, David was lovingly cared for by a group of devoted friends, his brother Norman, and especially by his father, "Pop." David's friends feel privileged to have had the opportunity to get to know his generous family, who live in the Tampa Bay, Florida, area. Right up to his death, David continued to make numerous friends who will dearly miss him.

A memorial service and reception will be held on Sunday, Sept. 24, at 2 p.m., at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco. A reception will follow the service. Memorial gifts may be made to Coming Home Hospice, the MCC-SF AIDS Ministry, Project Open Hand, the Shanti Project, or the Center in Oakland.

### David Randall Rusk

March 29, 1941-June 30, 1989

David, known to some of his friends as "Randy," died of complications of AIDS on June 30 at U.C. Hospital.

David had fought hard during the year he had AIDS, attempting to continue his work as a court reporter. He became a

court reporter late in life, in 1982 at the age of 41. In the succeeding seven years he became known as a reporter who was requested by many attorneys for their depositions. He worked with ABA Reporters in San Francisco. David was also a musician, singer and dancer.

David is survived by his friend and lover, Frank Bergmann, his mother, Ora Mae Rusk, and his brother Richard. His friends Dick and John will miss him.

### William R. Gunn, DVM

Our friend Bill ended his two-year battle with AIDS on Aug. 22. In spite of the pain, loss and sadness, these were quality years for Bill. He was positive and productive throughout the remainder of his life.

A native of Alabama, he attended Birmingham Southern, University of South Florida, and received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Auburn University in 1976. He migrated to San Francisco shortly thereafter to join his life partner, PacBell/CWA AIDS activist Tim O'Hara.

As co-owner of the Westborough Pet Hospital in South San Francisco, he devoted himself to the care and well-being of a large and varied population of companion animals. He was an excellent practitioner who understood and advanced the value of the human-animal bond.

Bill and Tim divided their time between Bernal Heights and the Russian River area on Austin Creek, where our extended family shared food, laughter, heartache and a whole lot of love. We will miss his droll wit, easy Southern charm, quiet compassion and good sense, not to mention his cornbread. Bill had total and tremendous support from his family: Mary Gunn of Bristol, Va.; sister and brother-in-law, Elliott and Carl Moore of Bristol, Tenn.; Tim O'Hara of San Francisco; and the many of us who loved him.

A celebration of his life was held at my home in Walnut Creek on Aug. 27. His ashes will be returned to the River and to the Sea. Bless you, my brother and my friend.

Drew Paylor

### Martin George Purell

Sept. 10, 1952-Aug. 31, 1989

Fortified with the great sacraments of hospitality and compassion by his family and friends, Marty fell asleep in the

arms of his creator on Thursday, Aug. 31 at 4 p.m. in Davies Medical Center. Hospitality and compassion are those same virtues that Marty most strongly exhibited in his own life, even during his heroic struggle with

AIDS.

A lover by nature and a registered nurse by profession, Marty welcomed into his 36 years a wide variety of loved ones. His earth journey began in Helena, Mont. A graduate of the University of Montana and St. Patrick's School of Nursing in Missoula, Marty resided 10 years in San Francisco. He nursed primarily at Davies and Mount Zion hospitals, where he was known and loved by many.

His Irish heritage was one of Marty's most prized possessions. He made the most of it always: melancholic and yet witty and full of good humor, a great storyteller, always ready for a good time, strongly committed to justice and peace, always concerned for others. For these and so many other endearing traits, Marty will always be remembered and deeply missed.

Preceded by his mother Louise Purell, and by his lover, George "Kit" Zoll, Marty is survived by his father, George, and stepmother, Dorothy, in Montana, and by his sisters, Majory Yeager and Kathleen Purell and his brothers, Richard, William, David and Thomas.

Marty's body was taken to Most Holy Redeemer Church on Monday, Sept. 4, for a celebration of his new life. After a memorial liturgy in Montana, his ashes will be buried with those of his lover, Kit, on the Gila River Indian Reservation in Arizona.

Rest gently, sweet love, until you rise and shine!

### Ronald Wayne Osborne

Left us on July 30. Ronnie's heart was open to everyone.



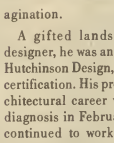
That's what made him so very special.

His is missed by his family, friends and lover of 11 years, Bill.

### Louis Field

Oct. 9, 1956-Aug. 29, 1989

A congenial New Zealander whose accent heightened his irrepressible humor, Lou came to America in 1981 after completing university studies in architecture in New Zealand. Intending to pursue his career in England, his journey was unexpectedly interrupted by a lifetime stopover in San Francisco, a city which captured his imagination.



A gifted landscape and interior designer, he was an architect for Robert Hutchinson Design, and received his AIA certification. His promising freelance architectural career was impeded by his diagnosis in February 1988, though he continued to work despite health setbacks. The legacy of his designs includes the white marble throne and dais in St. Mary's Cathedral, the Shugart building in Carmel, and the former Body Center Gym.

Lou was an avid cyclist and swimmer, a pianist and lover of Chopin; he defied his illness by becoming scuba-certified and diving in the Antilles last October. His lively wit and generous love extended his New Zealand family to include his many San Francisco friends as he courageously directed the management of his illness. The daily care given by his parents since their arrival from New Zealand in May, and visits by his two brothers were great comforts to him. The dedicated staffs at Pacific Presbyterian and Garden Sullivan were especially attentive to his care.

A memorial service for Lou was held at St. Mary the Virgin on Sept. 2. At the request of his family, memorial contributions may be made to Family Link, P.O. Box 42007, San Francisco, CA 94142. His ashes will be scattered on his favorite beach in accordance with his wishes.

## Stephen Bruce Blair

Stephen, known more popularly by his surname, Blair, slipped peacefully from this world last Saturday afternoon, Sept. 2, after succumbing to complications from a brief battle with acute liver disease. Blair's mother, Louise, his lover, Terry, and Terry's sister, Nina, were at his side at home as he left them to begin his journey to the stars. He is survived by a sister, Susan, a niece and nephew and many close and loving friends.

While his life was so unjustly short and his passing leaves yet another void in our saddened community, much that Blair did will remain to remind us how we benefitted by having him for the time we did.

Stephen was born in Walla Walla, Washington, Dec. 3, 1946, to Louise Rae (Walker) and the late Oliver (Buck) Blair. His early years were spent in Washington's apple-rich Wenatchee Valley where he graduated from Peshastin Dryden High School. After attending Washington State University, he relocated to New York City and embarked upon a career of graphic art and design coordination. His talents brought him quick success as he became a design coordinator and buyer for New York's infamous department store, Bloomingdale's.

In 1973 Stephen returned to the West Coast and attained another major goal—to settle in San Francisco. During his first years here, he continued to pursue design coordination, working for I. Magnin and Bullocks. As he continued these commercial design endeavors, Stephen also began to expand into the graphic arts. Some noteworthy examples of his extraordinary talent are the



well-known and acclaimed logos which he designed for establishments such as the Elephant Walk, Watering Hole and the Bolt. Through these accomplished designs, Stephen permanently leaves his stamp on our community.

Stephen is also known for other endeavors by many in San Francisco. He was one of the owners of a formerly popular dance bar on Haight Street named Bones. Many who frequented the Pacific Heights circuit remember Stephen as a bartender at Numbers on Fillmore Street. It is at this point in Stephen's life, in late 1981, that he met his lover, Terry Thompson, current manager of the S.F. Eagle, but then manager of the now defunct Arena.

In 1982 Stephen's career also brought him South of Market to

(Continued on next page)

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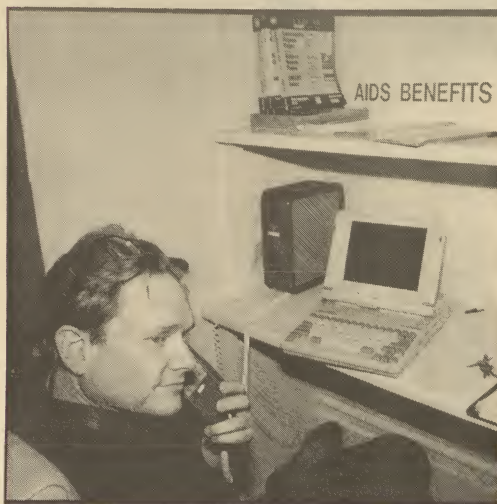
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# Group Helps Patients Get What's Theirs

## Clients Often Ignorant of Benefits, Agency Finds



Ron Brunk, a counselor with AIDS Benefits Counselors in San Francisco.

(Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

by Dennis Conkin

A report issued by AIDS Benefits Counselors, a local non-profit group, underscores the importance of people at risk for HIV disease to know what's available in their employee benefits packages and insurance contracts.

According to the report, a statistical detail of over 30 anonymous clients seeking benefits counseling through the agency, the average amount of available benefits was about \$100,000 a client. The aggregate value of available benefits to clients was over \$13 million.

More than 75 percent of ABC clients had group medical insurance—and more than half were qualified to continue medical insurance coverage under federal regulations. In addition, over half of the clients counseled had long-

term medical disability benefits that would pay them a monthly income for their loss of wages due to disability.

In most cases, according to Ron Brunk, a volunteer ABC counselor, clients often have no idea what employee benefits are available to them.

"People don't stop to think about them until they are disabled. They just come along with the job," said Brunk. "Out of all the clients I've counseled, only two really understood their full packages."

According to Brunk, confusion about employee benefits can lead many people suffering from HIV disease to assume that they will be reduced to poverty and unable to provide for themselves or afford medical costs related to their illness.

customers as his designs would appear on the massive stone wall which is used as backdrop to the Eagle patio.

A memorial service celebrating Blair's life was held Wednesday evening, Sept. 6, at the Metropolitan Community Church. Immediately following the service, and at Blair's own request, a gathering was held on the patio of the S.F. Eagle.

Terry and Blair's family wish to express their profound gratitude and appreciation for the outstanding care provided to Blair by Hospice by the Bay and by Hospice San Francisco. They also wish to thank all the members of the community for the constant love and support which helped ease their burden and grief during this most difficult time.

While Blair's death was non-AIDS related, they would greatly appreciate any donations made in (Stephen) Blair's name to any AIDS organization. Blair donated so much of his time and energy to this vital cause and would have been so pleased to know that he was still helping those in need.

We love you, we miss you... we shall never forget you. ▼

"We provide front-end counseling for people with HIV disease to minimize the possibility that they will become medically indigent. There's nothing worse than being sick and worrying about how you are going to feed yourself," Brunk told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

ABC success stories are amazing. In one case, the scrutiny of insurance benefits revealed that a man with AIDS had a long-term disability benefit that would pay him 60 percent of his wages. The client had no idea the benefit was available. Other clients have discovered that medical care costs—including prescriptions—were covered.

In addition to providing counseling to clients about their benefits, ABC also serves as a tenacious advocate for clients who might be caught in the bewildering of insurance forms and regulations—and employers who often don't understand, themselves, what's in the benefits packages they offer employees.

According to Brunk, bad advice abounds. He tells of clients frequently given incorrect information about their benefits by clerks or receptionists in personnel departments.

"One client paid for all of his own drugs for a year. He wasn't taking AZT because he couldn't afford it, based on a conversation with a clerk in a personnel office, who told him that he didn't have prescription coverage," he said.

The clerk was incorrect, and Brunk says the problem is not uncommon, but disastrous. And though the problem is usually one of ignorance, Brunk and the other volunteers at ABC will willingly take a hard-ball approach on behalf of clients, including filing complaints with state and federal insurance regulatory agencies, if problems are not solved.

Equipped with a lap-top computer, Brunk can conduct the interview at a client's hospital bedside, if necessary. Following the interview, Brunk will conduct a policy review and then educate the client about what benefits are available. The entire process often takes six hours.

Although there is no cost to the client, ABC does accept donations. Funding for the small California Street office comes from a grant from a private charitable foundation.

Demand for ABC services is great, with a 32-client waiting list, but the survival of the agency is uncertain, due to lack of funds.

In addition to private-sector insurance benefits counseling, ABC also provides counseling regarding federal Social Security disability benefits. The agency has been so successful in obtaining federal benefits for people with HIV disease that the state recently adopted its documentation model.

The intent of ABC is twofold: ensuring clients receive every benefit they are entitled to, and preventing them from sliding onto the public benefits sector. These goals are cost-effective to a local government hard hit by AIDS—and they allow the city to provide for people with HIV disease who are in need. ▼

## NEW HIV STUDY

The AIDS Clinical Research Project of Children's Hospital of San Francisco is now seeking individuals with symptomatic HIV infection to study the safety of DHEA and its effects on the immune system in HIV infection. DHEA is a hormone present in the human body and secreted by the adrenal glands. We plan to enroll 24 people who will take oral DHEA for 16 weeks. Participants will be closely monitored by lab tests and physical exams. Further information may be obtained by calling the ACRE project at 750-6529.

## RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for studies being done in the offices of Dr. Marcus Conant

### Treatment Program for Anemia

Erythropoietin is being used to treat anemia in AIDS patients; cannot have active opportunistic infections (KS is allowed). This is not a blind study.

### Double Blind Study of Thymopentin (TP-5) Effects on Patients with HIV-1 Infection

Asymptomatic and mildly symptomatic HIV+ volunteers are sought to test this immune modulator but cannot be on AZT at the time they begin the study.

### Six Week Condylomata Acuminata (venereal wart) Study

Volunteers must have genital, anal or lower trunk warts persisting for six months or more. Patients can be HIV+, but not on AZT, or they can be HIV-. This is not a blind study.

For further information please leave message at:

**661-1021**

## For AIDS/ARC Patients

## NEW ANTIVIRAL STUDY

Persons with AIDS or ARC are invited to participate in a combination study that evaluates the effectiveness of AZT and recombinant human interferon beta in suppressing HIV and in reducing the incidence of opportunistic infections. For more information, please call the Investigator in your area:

Davies Medical Center (San Francisco)	(415) 565-6524
East Bay Aids Center/Alta Bates (Berkeley)	(415) 540-1870
Merritt Peralta (Oakland)	(415) 273-8200
Valley Medical Center (San Jose)	(408) 299-5523 (408) 299-5587

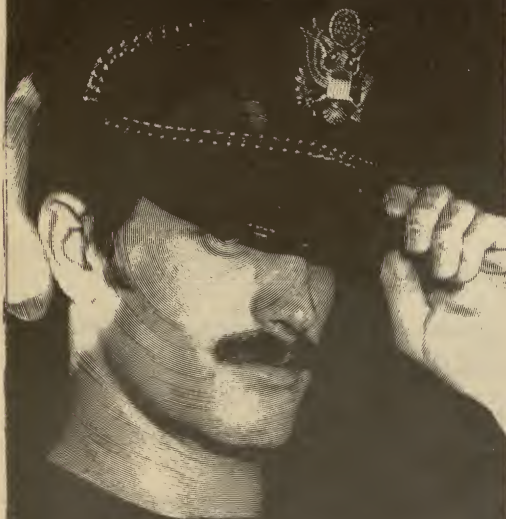
## MORE INFORMATION

Project Inform is an organization that provides information about treatment approaches for AIDS, ARC, and HIV infection. Information packets are available for the asking. You can reach Project Inform by phoning: (415) 928-0293 (local); California toll free (800) 334-7422; and national toll free (800) 822-7422. Or write: 25 Taylor St., Suite 618, San Francisco, CA 94102.

The project functions on volunteer energy (neither of the two directors—Joe Brewer or Martin Delaney—draw salaries). The information hotline also needs daytime volunteers. ●

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## Friday

(Continued from page 10)

reckless behavior to get in the way of your public persona. Even Barney Frank realizes this, and one has to believe that upon reflection, he would have handled this entire affair differently.

Strange bedfellows? John Amodio, long associated with the Sierra Club, who served as the California environmental constituency director for the state's 1988 Dukakis-Bentsen campaign, has joined Pete Wilson's gubernatorial campaign staff as Wilson's liaison with environmental groups.

Sharon McNight, Broadway's newest musical star, will entertain at a dinner at the Cafe Majestic Sept. 25 to benefit the Arlo Smith for Attorney General campaign given by Smith's supporters in the gay and lesbian community; \$100 donation asked (call Sterling Productions at 821-6116 for tix and info).

They have all signed on as supporters, but Britt, Maher, Alioto and Hongisto were the only supes to show at the big "Yes on S" (domestic partners) rally last week.

What? A press release arriving today advises that the Senior Executives Association will hold a two-day seminar in Washington Nov. 1 and 2. The association represents 2,500 career govern-



Sharon McNight

(Photo: Scott Martin)

ment executives and managers, and this is the fifth annual meeting on keeping Washington executives and others straight and narrow. This year's seminar is titled "Scandals, Scoundrels & Saints." Two of its featured speakers: Massachusetts Rep. Barney Frank and Robert E. Bauman, a former GOP House member from Maryland who was defeated after disclosure he was gay, who will speak on "Life After a Scandal"; Frank is scheduled to speak on "Ethics Legislation: Any End in Sight?" which incidentally is a subject before a House subcommittee he chairs. Frank's office told the Bay Area Reporter this week he agreed to appear long before getting caught up last week in his own ethics problems.

Tom Duane, a respected gay rights activist in New York, could become that city's first elected upfront gay city council member in next week's election; the influential *New York Times* editorially endorsed Duane over 20-year incumbent Carol Greitzer in Manhattan's 3rd District (Greenwich Village) and he is now given an excellent

chance of winning.

Conservative fundamentalists challenging Contra Costa County's new law barring discrimination against people with AIDS lost their first round last week. Superior Court Judge Richard Patsey issued a final ruling in Martinez denying a bid by the conservative group to halt enforcement of the law, pending a trial on the issue. Judge Patsey issued a tentative denial earlier, and confirmed it in his ruling against the Walnut Creek group Citizens for Uniform Laws.

And Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority is no more; the group officially disbanded last week in Roanoke, Va., but not before Falwell and his group made history by helping to marshal the religious right into a political force that raised \$70 million from 6 million people, helped elect two Republican presidents, and rallied conservatives behind issues ranging from abortion to pornography. As the bumper stickers said, "The Moral Majority is Neither"—good riddance!!

Sudden thought: If Mayor Agnos really wanted to improve the appearance of City Hall, he could take away that first floor bust of the pompous George Christopher and replace it with one of George Moscone.

New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, who said recently he's "obliged" to keep the door open for a possible 1992 presidential run, will be in California this weekend raising money for the Democrats.

And those who are supposed to know these things tell me you can expect Assemblyman Tom Hayden to pass up a run next year for state insurance commissioner and endorse Bill Press for the job.

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## Candidates

(Continued from page 17)

for ineffectiveness.

More than overt homophobia and name-calling, the candidates encounter ignorance. Dave Taylor was working the crowd after a recent candidates' forum. "One man said to me, 'Are you married?' I said, 'No, I'm not. I'm gay, and I'd like to introduce you to my life partner, Cliff Landers. We've been together 14 years.' He was kind of taken aback, but he said, 'I thank you for being so straightforward about this.'"

Public displays of affection are an issue for some candidates. Four years ago, David Rothenberg's rule of thumb was no kissing men in public. His campaign manager, David Fleischer, explains it as a matter of personal style. "He didn't kiss much before or after, either." Not so for Duane or Taylor. "I kiss everybody," says Duane. "Not only do

I kiss lesbians and gay men, but I kiss non-gay women and I kiss non-gay men."

The visibility of candidacy can magnify the power of small gestures. Dave Taylor and his lover marched hand in hand on Gay Pride Day, as they have for 14 years. But because they were under a banner proclaiming Taylor's candidacy, he says dozens of people came up to thank them. His vision for January 1, 1990: "I would very much like to be able to go to City Hall to get sworn in holding my lover's hand for all the city to see."

This article originally appeared in slightly different form in Outweek magazine, which is published in New York.

Campaign donations may be sent to:

Friends of Tom Duane, 199 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10011; (212) 727-8150.

Friends of Dave Taylor, 2095 Broadway #505, New York, NY 10023; (212) 721-0064.

## Carol Greitzer; Not Always Pro-Gay

Carol Greitzer came to the City Council the same year as Stonewall. But her record on gays goes back even further. The *New York Times* of Oct. 5, 1964, reported on her and her fellow Democratic Party district leader: "Ed Koch and Carol Greitzer were pushing the Police Commission for more plainclothes cops to control 'perverts' in Washington Square Park and the streets near Village Square."

In 1970, when Gay Activist Alliance (GAA) member Jim Owles tried to present Greitzer with petitions demanding gay rights, she refused, telling him that she "didn't relate to the homosexual cause." Owles went on to challenge Greitzer in 1973 as the first openly gay candidate in New York City history.

To be fair, Greitzer had come around and voted in favor of the gay rights bill long before it was passed in 1986. But is voting the right way enough? Tom Duane describes Greitzer as inert; her colleagues on the Council seem inclined to agree. In a 1986 *Daily News* survey of the City Council's 35 members, Greitzer was voted "worst personality." Says Duane, "It sounds like a joke, but it speaks to her effectiveness."

—Sandor Katz

# BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



John B. Tighe, the new executive director of The Center in Oakland.

## The Center Names New Exec Director

The Center, an Oakland-based practical support center for persons with AIDS/ARC in Alameda County, has named John B. Tighe executive director, succeeding Brother Jeremy Hollinger, M.C., a Missionary Brother of Charity, who founded the organization over two years ago. Brother Jeremy resigned earlier this month in order to devote more time to his other activities, but will continue his involvement in the Center as a member of the board of directors.

Tighe, a resident of San Francisco, comes to the Center with strong financial and human resource management skills after sixteen years in the banking industry in California and Washington, D.C. He has also taught management courses at South-eastern University in Washington, D.C., and has worked as a consultant to financial institutions in the areas of operations, strategic planning, and marketing. As the Center's executive

director, Tighe is responsible for the overall management of the agency, as well as for coordinating all fundraising, community relations activities, and developing ongoing programs in conjunction with the client services administrator.

Although the Center was originally created as a spiritual resource center for persons with AIDS/ARC and their caregivers, it has evolved into a full-service agency. With a paid professional staff of ten full-time and part-time employees and over 247 volunteers, the Center offers the AIDS/ARC community of Alameda County a drop-in day center providing recreational activities, therapeutic massage and bodywork, laundry facilities, haircuts, and daily lunches. In addition to the day center, the Center also offers hospital outreach and individualized counseling and support for persons with AIDS/ARC, and families and friends, a Foodbank, a Women's and Children's

program, shared housing and apartment referrals, and practical support volunteers who are trained to assist with a number of in-home tasks.

The Center has a client relationship with 73 percent of all diagnosed AIDS cases in Alameda County and currently serves 300 adults and twelve children. Funded to date entirely from private donations, the Center operates on an annual budget of approximately \$325,000.

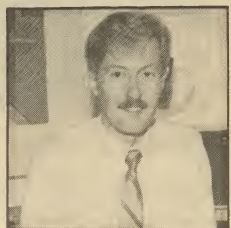
In announcing the appointment of Tighe as executive director, board Chairwoman Patricia Curran said that, since the Center's creation two years ago, the agency has tried to meet the growing and changing needs of its clients through the development of sound, viable services with adequate funding levels to sustain them. "Doing so," she said, "not only requires raising the money to implement these services, but also managing your financial, human, and other resources effectively for maximum efficiency. We feel that the Center's management has painstakingly worked to put the agency on sound financial ground while simultaneously building a staff dedicated to serving the needs of our clients. John's record of accomplishments in finance and management will, I believe, provide the business expertise needed by the Center to enable it to continue to meet the needs of persons with AIDS/ARC in Alameda County."

"Like so many others, I will welcome that day when there no longer is a need for the existence of organizations such as the Center," Tighe said of his appointment as executive director. "In the interim, however, Alameda County has the fourth-highest incidence of reported AIDS cases in California, and those suffering from this disease have legitimate and pressing needs for a variety of emotional and practical support services. Without trying to duplicate the programs provided by other AIDS/ARC service organizations in the East Bay, the Center strives to fill voids in service provision to this segment of the community. I am looking forward to making whatever contributions I can to ease the pain and suffering of persons in Alameda County living with AIDS, ARC, or other HIV infections and am pleased to have the opportunity to become associated with such a fine organization as the Center." ▼

## ELLIPSE Brainstorms For Values and Ideas

by Marv. Shaw

The rewards and improved prospects for working with ELLIPSE, the San Mateo County AIDS organization, were pooled by 40 associates at a special "Quality Circle" meeting at Senior Focus in Burlingame on Sept. 1. A combination of brainstorming and social for staffers, board members, volunteers and clients, the function was the idea of Executive Director Andy Bowlds. By "Quality" Bowlds



Andy Bowlds

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

meant both the devotion of the people involved and the worth of their contributions. The main purposes were to promote communications and get ideas for improving the operation.

The session was facilitated by Jonathan Messenger, who is the training coordinator for the San Mateo County AIDS Project. His particular job there is to operate the gay and lesbian youth outreach program and to take programs of AIDS education to schools and any other groups where they would be welcome. The Jefferson High School District was cited as most welcoming. The Sequoia District, it appears, is stonewalling such efforts. (Continued on page 23)

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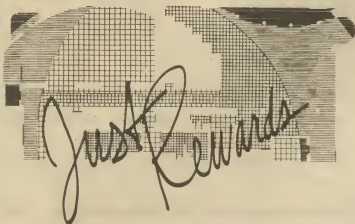
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## New Pass

## Farewell New York

On day four our family—for that's what it had become by then—had a continental breakfast with all the big wigs of the Institute. It was only an hour's repast, and then back to the grueling work of our final day. We were given our "Mystery Basket" ingredients so that we could cook our own final lunch. Actually lunch is a misnomer, since we didn't eat until 4 p.m.

After our food presentation and sampling, but before we were awarded our certificates of completion, the "family" insisted that the two jokes be shared with all who were present, including some of the big wigs. Somehow, everyone in the class was invited back to participate in a follow-up course next year. Wouldn't you know it that the "Cinderella from the Bronx" teller and I could maybe return in two years! (Of course they were pulling our legs—I think!)

We were "graduated" with a handsome certificate, CIA promotional video, CIA apron, warm smiles and heart-felt handshakes. Pressing circumstances caused four of our "family" to leave before the ceremonies, and they were sorely missed because our group's amicability and affinity had really solidified since our first meeting four days before. We were informed that the inaugural group for this type of culinary update, held a month before, were much more staid, had not the same "team spirit" the we displayed, were much quieter and meeker, and didn't have the cohesive personality that our group had.

The setting sun was witness to even more of our family departing back to the real work-a-day world. Only a handful of diehards and Saturday departees remained to celebrate a final brewsky at Augie's. But the weekends on campus are like a ghost town, and there are hardly any students to be seen. There couldn't have been more than 10 to help us celebrate our final night in Hyde Park.

Finally, we too had to make the break of the ties that had bound us for four intense, work-hard/play-hard days and nights. One by one we exchanged farewells and headed to our roommate-less rooms, letting the hectic week's activities lull us to dreamland around 9:30 p.m.

John, my cab mate, and I arranged to meet in the lobby at noon to catch our 1:54 flight out of Poughkeepsie to JFK. I'm really glad we did it that early, because he had promised his wife, back in Houston, a genuine New York Reuben sandwich!

He had called and placed the order but only got a brief description as to where the take-out place was. Our cab driver was fairly new, and it took six different stops, doubling back once, and four phone calls to get the friggin' sandwiches. All the time the clock was ticking away, and our flight's departure was getting closer and closer.

Finally John made the right connection and he and I and the drive and four Reuben sandwiches raced to the airport. John had been thoughtful and bought one each for us to have before the flight. We managed to finish just before we were called to board the plane.

A short hop to JFK, a layover of four hours, a five-hour-plus return flight, and I was back in

SFO at 9 PDT, waiting to deplane, and waiting again for my luggage! My spouse was outside, stewing about the never-ending traffic mess around SFO, but we managed to wind our way home by 10:30 p.m. Of course to my body clock it was closer to two in the morning, so I went to bed then and there!

It was all worth it. I had met a lot of new "friends" from all over the nation and Canada—and Texas!—and learned a lot about what is new in the culinary field. It was an invigorating and enlightening experience, and I'm looking forward to when they send us our "class" picture in a few weeks. It will assist me in reliving some very good times.

### FARDEL VICISSITUDE (A "Here We Go Again!" Nose)

OK, already! So it's been changed for the fourth time! The fourth annual People for People Barbecue has a new date.

Forget Sunday, Aug. 27, the closest anniversary date. Forget Sunday, Sept. 3 that was previously announced. Forget Sunday, Sept. 17, which was to have been so that several "higher-ups" from Fairmont Hospital could see just what a fantastic get-together it really is.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Sept. 24, for the PFP barbecue/picnic. I was informed that this date was selected because it is the closest to the fifth anniversary of the opening of the AIDS ward at Fairmont Hospital. So, dear reader, remember that date, and remember the time of 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. I'll be there but I doubt whether I'll have any bells on!

### HOTCHPOTCH (A "Ragout" Nose)

After midnight, Sept. 15, all candidates for Emperor and Empress XI of ISE will start campaigning in earnest (and in the East Bay, too, I hope!). Until that time there can be no hint or whisper of who's running... even though several names do come to mind for some reason or another!

And yes, the only voting booths will be at the hotel site. This was decided so that no bar owner would feel left out if his/her bar wasn't selected as an official "ballot bar." Hell, even with this egalitarian way of doing it, I can

think of one bar owner who will be pissed!

And yes, voting will be from noon to 2 p.m. in the Hospitality Suite, and from 6 to 8 p.m. in the lobby outside the Coronation Hall. It all takes place at Hyatt Oakland International. And no, you don't have to attend the coronation to be eligible to vote!

★ ★ ★

It was bound to happen! Bob Sandner will master the piano bar five nights a week at D.J.'s in Walnut Creek. He's there to tickle your fancies as well as the ivories on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, at 9 p.m.; Sundays, at 5 p.m.

And get this: Bob's daughter, Mary, will be the cocktail waitress (er... excuse me, it's waitperson!) on Friday and Saturday nights. Now if Ted and Alice can make it, we've really got something going here!

★ ★ ★

It's after the fact, but I understand that Morgan's "A New Attitude" show at T&C a few weeks ago was a real hmmm dinger! That girl does love to party, eh what?

★ ★ ★

Speaking of after the fact(s), that's just how I have to write about two B-I-G birthday parties and one "house" warming coming up. "Of course you can mention it, but after it's happened, please!"

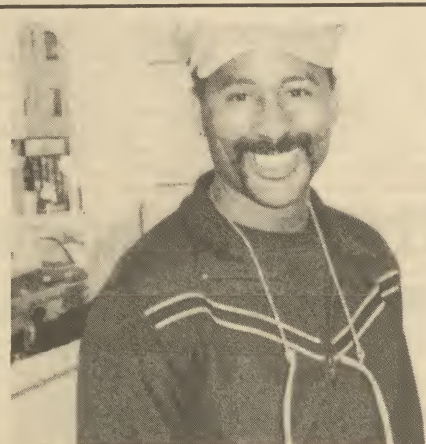
Hmmmm? What do you mean, how did I get invited? I bought my invitations from the same guy who sold me my "exclusive" to Forbes' big bash in Morocco!

★ ★ ★

The Turf Club celebrates on Sept. 15, 16 and 17 with an "End of Summer Hoedown" weekend. Helping to celebrate will be Wild Fire, Rose Bud, Kustom Stars, Bay City Cloggers, S.F. Saddle Tramps, Rawhide Stompers, Country Cloggers, and San Jose Spurs. Of course, there will be a barbecue. It will be catered, so put that in your "tattle tale" and smoke it!

★ ★ ★

All you health nuts out there are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing! A smile? Perhaps a grin! Love, Nez.



### Sports Liaison

Joel Irvine, an art specialist in the cultural division of the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. He is being promoted to liaison to the lesbian and gay sports community.

(Photo: Rink)



## Hollywood Bablyon

"Divine" and astonished onlookers at the Hollywood party, held last week at the Mint as a benefit for Project Open Hand.

(Photo: Rink)

## Tentative Ruling For Contra Costa Discrimination Law

by Keith Clark

Contra Cost Superior Court Judge Richard Patsey tentatively issued a ruling Aug. 29 that would uphold the county's AIDS anti-discrimination law, which has been the object of controversy since it was approved in May.

Judge Patsey said he would not issue a preliminary injunction asked for by attorney Michael Imfeld, representing Citizens for Uniform Laws, that is seeking to overturn the ordinance. Imfeld had asked Patsey for the injunction to enjoin the county human relations commission, the defendant in the lawsuit, from in-

vestigating allegations of discrimination.

Imfeld, who is frequently involved in conservative and fundamentalist court battles in the area, claims the county cannot regulate housing and employment discrimination, and the AIDS anti-discrimination ordinance does, because these areas are pre-empted by the state's fair employment and housing act.

Patsey said he would issue a final ruling after studying a higher court ruling that might bear on the case. ▼

## Ellipse

(Continued from page 21)

Self introductions around the circle were first. Notable among them were Harold Jackson, president of the Board of Trustees, and Carol Hines, newly hired director of development, whose special responsibility will be fundraising.

Messenger fostered a warmly positive feeling first by eliciting those things that people liked most about ELLIPSE. They ranged across a broad spectrum: loving contact, commitment, team effort, goal striving, networking, willingness to change, development of expertise, and the security clients felt.

The second question was "What would you most like to see happen at ELLIPSE?" The answer was a most variegated series of responses. A key term for many was "more." Directly following that opener were suggestions such as feedback from all, social bonding, fundraising, publicity, minority participation, interchange with other AIDS organizations, and strokes for the participants.

There was a particular concern for better publicity, especially be-

cause of a widely noticeable erroneous view by the public that ELLIPSE had closed. The closing of the care facility on Woodside Road in Redwood City last year prompted this misunderstanding.

Other specifics abounded: an increase in client activities, a support group for women clients and another for drug abusers, improved outreach to hospitals, a re-involvement of former participants, another food basket project, and a public awareness campaign that would include a speakers bureau.

The continuing great need for ELLIPSE and allied services became starkly clear when it was announced that health officials have estimated that as many as 5,000 people could be HIV infected in the county.

A brief question period for staff members followed. There were also compliments for the steady effort of the staff members during the time when ELLIPSE had no confirmed executive director.

Inquiries are invited, especially from prospective volunteers. The number is (415) 572-9702. There is also a hotline at (415) 574-6978. ▼

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# BAY AREA REPORTER

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### 'Give Me Those Ruby Slippers, My Pretty!'



by Noreen C. Barnes

**T**he Ruby Slippers of Oz is Rhys Thomas' engaging and well-researched account of Hollywood's—and America's—fascination with movie magic, particularly with the charmed shoes (how many pairs were there?) that Judy Garland wore as Dorothy Gale a half century ago.

Thomas' investigation took him across the country and uncovered decades of deception and secrets, as well as a remarkable cast of players—each claiming to possess one of the film industry's most cherished symbols of power, magic and childhood innocence.

At the center of the intrigue surrounding the shoes is a studio costumer, Kent Warner, a flamboyant young man who "liberated" hundreds of costumes and props from untouched storage rooms, dust-covered shelves and trash bins. He saved them from decay and destruction and sold them to collectors who appreciated their worth, while he kept many of the invaluable items for himself, including the pair of ruby slippers from Oz that he claimed were used only for a particular set of close-up shots:

"He took them out of the case and showed me the bottoms. He showed me where Judy tapped her heels together. They had little, circular scuff marks. He said they were worn only in that scene. I almost fainted. He knew he had the best."

Warner died of AIDS in 1984. Ron Wind, who was also a costumer and collector (and the one to prompt Warner's own salvaging of Hollywood history) was his ex-lover and accomplice in many of these memorabilia deals. He passed away a year later. Thomas pieced together the story of their lives together, and their "liberation" of movie

costumes and props from a variety of friends and co-workers.

Warner is surrounded by such figures as Debbie Reynolds, who has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on costumes and props for a proposed Hollywood museum that has yet to exist, and has been frustrated in her attempts to acquire one of the pairs of ruby slippers (although she has a "test" pair used in the first few weeks of shooting the film); Roberta Bauman, an obscure Tennessee housewife who won a pair of slippers used in the movie in a contest in 1940, and who finally sold them at Christie's for \$150,000 last year, and a colorful San Francisco figure Ted Smith.

The San Francisco connection to the slippers is an interesting one, because it demonstrates to what lengths people will go to be associated with this screen image, which has become central in the popular imagination.

Thomas described Ted Smith as a "professional clown with a penchant for buying memorabilia." There is a common perception that he actually owned a pair of the shoes, and he did represent a pair of shoes as authentic in his Pine Street novelty store.

**H**owever, the fact that he called Roberta Bauman in Tennessee in 1981 claiming to be a freelance writer who was doing a story on the ruby slippers, and requested—in a follow-up letter—"a good close-up photo, a side view and photos of the bottom" and wanted to know the "color of the felt on the bottom of the shoes," as well as the color on the inside, the numbers and their placement on the inside, and the overall "size and dimensions" of the shoes, were thought by Mrs. Bauman to be rather "peculiar requests,"



But she sent him all the photos and information anyway. She was very surprised to soon thereafter receive a copy, from another "ruby slipper friend" in Oakland, of a *San Francisco Chronicle* interview with Ted Smith by Randy Shilts in which Smith claimed, "Just to think that Judy Garland touched these is amazing."

Smith finally admitted that he lied to Roberta Bauman to get information about the shoes, but still maintained that he owned a pair purchased from an MGM employee. They may have been stolen from his store in 1984, and the supposed theft was well publicized, but the police department, believing the shoes to be fakes, closed the case. Days after the alleged robbery, Smith's store folded.

For many people, the shoes were, as Thomas remarked to me in an interview at Cafe Flore, an "avenue to complete a fantasy—a symbol of the power of belief."

Kent Warner also had his own carefully constructed reality—one which encompassed the entire aura of the 1930s, which he attempted to replicate in every possible way. He was a romantic with a collection that included radios, early televisions, priceless cigarette lighters, Bogart's trenchcoat from *Casablanca*, costumes of Ginger Rogers, and most of the dresses worn by Garland in *The Wizard of Oz*. It was his knowledge of the value of the items that were being discarded by the studio costume and property departments, the scavenging bravado he picked up from Ron Wind, and his great love of all the treasures he found and what they symbolized—that

made him the person, according to Thomas, "without whom the book could not have been written."

Contracting AIDS, possibly as early as 1977, however, did not fit in that romanticized image Warner had of life, of being able to immerse himself in a glamorous past, and he denied having the virus.

Warner, a kind of Robin Hood or Billy the Kid figure, was legendary in the Hollywood costuming community. He possessed energy, humor and a sense of style.

Thomas writes that a Hollywood memorabilia museum should be dedicated in Warner's name, as he was the one to make most items available to people, and was the first to try to preserve them. Warner created, then took advantage of what Thomas calls a "window of opportunity that existed from 1965-79—Warner was the first one through the window." His talent and ability to identify things made the memorabilia business lucrative.

**T**homas thinks that ultimately the ruby slippers may have become a rather large burden for Warner: "He invested a belief in them, but the charm of the shoes can only be used once, then they are no good to you. Warner lost his energy, and the shoes drained him. It's not what they are—it's what they do."

As for Roberta Bauman, Thomas says she "tapped her heels three times after 48 years," as she reaped a wonderful retirement when her pair of shoes sold at a New York auction for \$165,000.

Photos from *The Ruby Slippers of Oz* by Rhys Thomas (Tale Weaver Publishing). *Wizard of Oz* film pictures courtesy of Turner Entertainment Co.

Thomas prefers the idea of these items going into the public trust rather than the auction circuit.

Thomas, who wrote the book in just four months after he had collected his research (so that it would be published for the 50th anniversary of the release of the film) has a passion for American history. His initial interest in Oz is in Baum's "political parable on turn-of-the-century populism"—and the crucial change of the silver shoes to ruby slippers by a screenwriter, the "tampering with a literary metaphor" for the sake of Technicolor.

Working on a World War II story, which he has been documenting for the past five years, Thomas is a freelance writer who contributes to the *Los Angeles Times* and other publications, has been a sports stringer for the Associated Press, has written much for what he calls "bad TV," and does what he calls "scrap for a dollar" journalism. He is also a croquet professional, who, although a rookie on the tournament circuit this year, recently placed well in the Domaine Mumm Croquet Classic, winning \$500.

Rhys Thomas says that he has been living the story of the ruby slippers for the past three years, and it's one that won't end—even though this is where he says he's "getting off the train." And, he says emphatically, "I don't want a pair of ruby slippers." ▼

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San Francisco District Attorney (Ken Cady—553-1572 or Bref French—553-1747)

San Francisco Public Defender (Ron Albers—553-9329 or Susan Shalit—553-1671)

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## STAGE

# Shepard's 'Fool for Love' Finds Open Arms at North Beach Rep

by David Perry

The talented and probing group of actors and directors who are North Beach Repertory have found a cozy home in the new Hungry Id Theatre on Broadway. Kudos all around for their terrifically taut and professional production of Sam Shepard's *Fool for Love*, as auspicious a maiden voyage as any in recent memory. The only negative here is the auditory overspill from Sporty's restaurant above the house. Hopefully, this will prove a solvable problem.

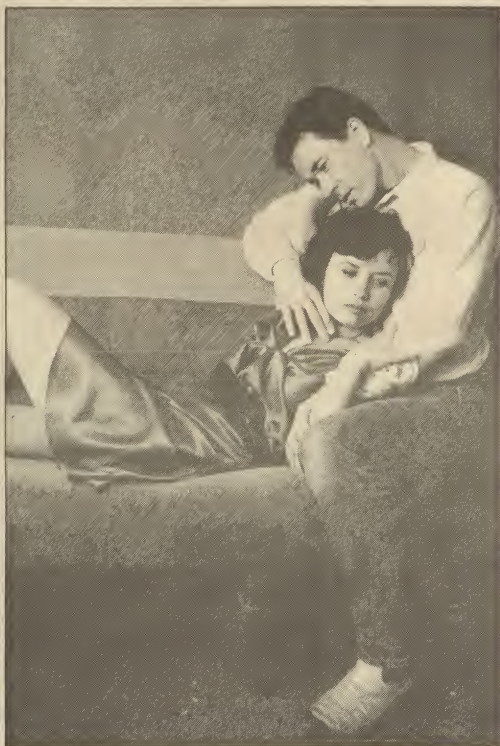
There's something very right about Sam Shepard in San Francisco. Since Fort Mason's Magic Theatre gave the world its first glimpse of this daring playwright cum actor, the American stage hasn't been the same. *Fool*, Shepard's most produced work, received its premiere at the Magic in 1983, directed by the playwright himself. In 1986 Robert Altman took it to the screen starring Shepard and Kim Basinger. And last year the Magic mounted it again. You would think yet another production in little more than a year would be overkill. Not so.

The tightly packed, intermissionless hour of Shepard's poetic realism is a magnet for audiences and actors. Like the sexual obsession it chronicles, *Fool* draws you to it. More than any other contemporary playwright, Shepard successfully paints contemporary mores with a palette of natural language without losing any theatrical lyricism. David Mamet gives us four letter words; Sam Shepard the guts and intentions beneath them.

May (Edith Bryson) and Eddie (Anthony St. Martin) are trapped in a web of incestuous relationships, playing out yet another scene in their long and violent romance here in a seedy motel room somewhere in the desert southwest. Watching all, drifting in and out of the tangible action, is the Old Man (Bill Hall)—a phantasm in a rocking chair stage left. We are not seeing a beginning or an ending, just a continuation. Neither comedy nor tragedy, *Fool* holds us rapt with its discomfiting familiarity. Whether we've been in as unhealthy a relationship as the one on stage, we nonetheless recognize the symptoms.

As the on again off again lovers, Bryson and St. Martin are well-matched. Bryson doesn't succumb to the pouty petulance that is an obvious misstep of this role. St. Martin doesn't sink into a caricature of misogyny. Both give performances of simple honesty. Eddie's swaggering machismo is reflective of that character's posturing, not St. Martin's attempt at role playing. You believe them. Richard Lindstrom, remembered as the man's man from North Beach Rep's *No Exit* of several months ago, shows his versatility with his portrayal here of the wide-eyed wimp Martin.

The one casting weak link is Bill Hall's Old Man. With few written lines, his character is nonetheless the fulcrum on which Shepard's drama teeters. He alone seems uncomfortable in the forced confines of Brice Evans' realistic and convincing set. The least inexperienced of



A scene from *Fool for Love*.

the troupe, Hall will undoubtedly grow with time. However, we are supposed to experience the familial horror of Shepard's creation through his reactions, and are unable to.

As co-directors, Linda Pacino and Margie Pratchenko keep the action fast and convincing—no small feat considering the small playing area they must work in. It's obvious they are part of a like-thinking ensemble, and the results are pleasing.

North Beach Repertory bases its method in the Stanislavski Method as taught by Stella Adler, i.e., an actor-friendly theatre as opposed to a directorial con-

ceptualized one. With a suitable space, smart play selection and a committed corp of artists, NBR seems headed for success. If they can work out something with Sporty's upstairs, the collaboration should be mutually beneficial. Too often during the play's quieter moments, the overt realism of a football-watching crowd upstairs distracted from the stage realism in front of us. ▼

**Fool for Love**  
through Sept. 30  
Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m.  
The Hungry Id Theatre, Sporty's Restaurant, 391 Broadway (at Montgomery); \$10; 441-4084.

## Broadway Cares Awards \$1,000 To Community Research Alliance

Celebrities such as Gwen Verdon, Barbara Cook, Jerome Robbins, Colleen Dewhurst, B.D. Wong, Helen Hayes and George Segal are among many in the New York Theatre community who have given their time and talent to help people living with AIDS.

Through Broadway Cares, a unique organization composed of 38 guilds, unions and associations that make up the industry, people in show business have helped to raise funds that are granted throughout the year to community-based organizations across the nation that provide direct care and service for those with AIDS.

A grant of \$1,000 made to Community Research Alliance of San Francisco was part of the \$100,000 disbursed in July to 37 organizations. These funds have been given to support the position of patient services practi-

tioner.

The CRA is a non-profit community-based AIDS treatment research organization funded by donations from the community and private foundations such as the recent \$30,000 organizational development grant from the American Foundation for AIDS Research in addition to the grant of \$1,000 from Broadway Cares.

The support for Broadway Cares has been made on a matching basis as a challenge to new contributors. Donors who wish to match this grant may send checks in any amount to Community Research at 273 Church St., San Francisco 94114 with a note mentioning that it is in response to the Broadway Cares challenge.

In a little more than a year, Broadway Cares has raised more than a half million dollars through a host of special events and other activities. ▼

# Theatre Rhino Debut— From Prussia With Love: Baron Von Steuben and the Dear Love Of Comrades-At-Arms

by Wendell Ricketts

"In the three published biographies of Baron Friedrich von Steuben, there is no mention of his ever once having been in love with, been attracted to, kissed, courted, written a love letter to, lived with, traveled with, spent the night with, or had a relationship with any woman."

So writes playwright William Andrew Jones in the preface to *Friedrich*, Jones's campy dramatic embroidery upon the life and times of Revolutionary War hero Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin von Steuben.

For the chronicler of gay and lesbian lives, such a detail—or such an absence of details—is likely to send up a lavender flare: The love that dared not speak its name may have been spoken here. In the case of von Steuben, Jones had to fill in the many historical gaps with his own imagination. His fanciful portrait of von Steuben, then, takes root in what the history books don't tell you.

The world premiere of *Friedrich*, under the direction of Adele Prandini, takes place Sept. 9 on the mainstage at Theatre Rhinoceros, the kickoff of the theatre's 12th anniversary season. An added attraction for Rhinoceros regulars is the presence of best-beloved Robert Coffman, whose appearance in *Friedrich* marks his 14th romp across the boards of Rhinoceros stages.

Distinguished by its unrestrained humor, jaunty stylism and charming visual flourishes, the Rhinoceros production of *Friedrich* can only be called *tres gai*. Indeed, Jones's inventive script reveals Friedrich as a man of uncommon resilience, courage, devilry and even flamboyance (late in his life, for example, von Steuben referred to himself and his friend, Captain Ben Walker, as "La petit Walker et sa grande femme").

Those who recognize von Steuben's name may recall him as the man famous for whipping George Washington's rag-tag American troops into shape at Valley Forge in 1777, an intervention that helped turn the tide of the American Revolution.

But even those who are unfamiliar with von Steuben's life may have chanced to visit Steuben County, N.Y. (one of several large tracts of land granted to von Steuben as a reward for his contribution to America's struggle for independence) or may know of Steubenville, Ohio (formerly Fort Steuben), the river town where Steuben glass is still manufactured today.

Although most American accounts of Baron Friedrich von Steuben begin with his arrival in this country, von Steuben was 47 years old when he sailed west from France aboard the *Flamard*. During his earlier years, he had already lived a life of immense adventure, style and even tragedy. His valor in the Seven Years' War,

for example, made von Steuben a Prussian national hero, and he later served as personal aide-de-camp to King Frederick the Great.

At age 33, however, von Steuben was banished from his homeland for an "indiscretion." Although von Steuben's biographers describe the circumstances surrounding his expulsion as "but little known," playwright Jones imagines that von Steuben was exiled for a love affair with a young officer in his command.

As an ex-patriot, von Steuben wandered Europe for more than a decade before the Marquis de Beaumarchais (author of *The*

*Barber of Seville* and *The Marriage of Figaro*) suggested that the "Prussian school of discipline" could be marketed in America. When von Steuben hesitated, Beaumarchais volunteered to finance the trip. As history records, von Steuben's decision to come to America was a tremendous stroke of good fortune for the colonists.

Jones notes: "Everyone thinks that the way America won the revolution was that the British all marched in straight lines, while the Americans hid in the bushes and behind the trees and shot them. That was true—for the

(Continued on page 48)



Robert Coffman, left, and M. Michael Goico star in *Friedrich*, the season opener at Theatre Rhinoceros. (Photo: Jill Posener)

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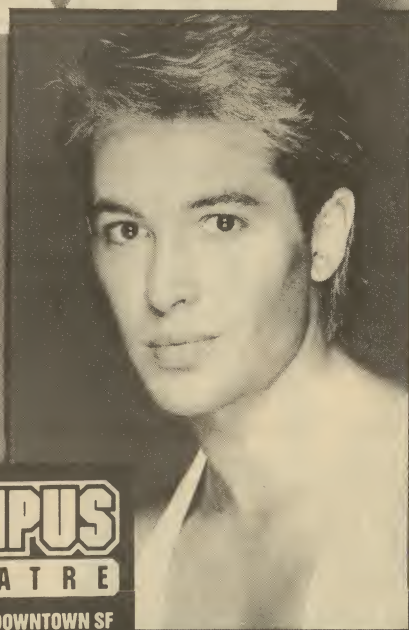
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## 'The Beat'

What Next?  
Musical  
Condoms

by David Taylor-Wilson

A company from North West London called First Maxi is marketing a line of musical condoms that play 30-second snippets from hit songs! (I kid you not.) Song bits are placed on tiny computer chips that are fitted into the rims of the condoms.

"These chips are programmed to burst into song when the bodily movements reach a certain pitch," says Nick Munyas, co-developer of the musical condom.

The company is negotiating to purchase the rights for various songs. Its "debut release" features The Beatles' "Love Me Do."

All I want to know is what the frequency response of these little gems are, and whether or not I'm going to be expected to sing along with the music. Boy, as if there isn't enough pressure to perform in bed already—now this.

## Radio Rubber

As long as we're on the subject... radio station WDHA in Dover, N.J., along with a few



Watch for new releases from David Bowie and, yes, Marilyn Monroe.

other East Coast stations, have joined the fight against AIDS. These stations have been selling custom-made condoms (with all proceeds going to local AIDS organizations) that sport the station logo.

I believe that the logo is printed on the condom package and not on the condom itself, but what with musical condoms and all, who knows. WDHA's brand of condoms will bear the station's nickname—the Jersey Giant! OK, I think that's enough prophylactic press for this week...

## Mega-Party

Whitney Houston recently celebrated her 26th birthday party in her home state of New

Jersey. More than 600 guests attended the event.

## Material Girl

Fans of Marilyn Monroe will be pleased to hear that a new CD picture disk has been put together of Monroe singing. Entitled "Some Like It Hot," it is actually a maxi-single that features Monroe singing "I Wanna Be Loved By You" (remixed version); "Never Before and Never Again"; "Happy Birthday" (to JFK) in two versions, the original, and a remixed 12-inch single version that made the rounds in Europe; "Heat Wave"; and the title track.

## The Reel Stuff

We hear that Roland Gift of

the Fine Young Cannibals has been offered the role of Che Guevara in the upcoming big-screen version of *Evita*.

Personal-fave Natalie Cole is on tour to promote her LP "Good To Be Back." This LP captures Cole at her best. It's already yielded the #1 hit "Miss You Like Crazy." The current release, "I Do" is a pretty duet featuring Freddie Jackson. The LP is full of gems. Standouts include "Someone's Rockin' My Dreamboat," which showcases Cole's jazzy talents; and my favorite, "Don't Mention My Heartache."

Cole's tour is slated to bring her to the Fillmore on Sept. 10.

## Hot Wax

September has a bevy of new LP's by major artists scheduled to be released. You can expect new product this month from David Bowie, Tracy Chapman, Aerosmith, The Fat Boys, Tears for Fears, New Kids on the Block, Melissa Etheridge, Jethro Tull, Motley Crue, Randy Travis, Dwight Yoakam, Tina Turner, Ricky Van Shelton and of course Janet Jackson.

## Studio Sets

Earth, Wind & Fire have been laying down tracks for a new album; Teena Marie has been producing herself for a new project; Earl Klugh's new LP "Whispers and Promises" is just about complete; Luther Vandross has also spent time tracking for a new album; Sergio Mendes has been working on his new album, while also working on the new Johnny Mathis album; former Blue Note frontman Teddy Pendergrass has just completed studio work for his upcoming album; the Stylistics were recently signed to Warner Bros. They've just spent time in the studio also. Didn't know those guys were still around.

## Beats and Pieces

Expose will be hosting the USA Cable network's *Dance Party USA* on Oct. 4... Cher's latest LP, "Heart of Stone," has been selling like crazy. It may turn out to be the most successful LP thus far in her career. Can you name her best-selling LP to date? "Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves" from 1971... The Bee Gees' Warner Bros. LP "One," has been doing so well that it's prompted PolyGram Records to put off releasing a boxed set of the Bee Gees anthology... Adam Ant has completed work on a new album after taking a multiple-year hiatus to pursue acting... and we hear that Vanessa

Williams will be honored by her alma mater this month for her accomplishments as a singer.

The grammy-nominated lady will receive the Chancellor's Citation for Distinguished Achievement from Syracuse University.

I wonder if they remember that she dropped out after two years.

## Simply Wonder-ful

Stevie Wonder will be performing a pay-per-view television concert to raise money for the nation's homeless. The event has been titled *Every Heart Needs a Home* and will run from two to three hours. The tentative air date is Nov. 22 from New York's Beacon Theatre.

## Bad Rap

In less than four months the '80s will come to a close. As with each period of time, a certain musical style can be identified as a part of it. The '80s will definitely be remembered as having given birth to rap music. In its infancy rap music was full of energy and fire. It gave us a cold, hard, realistic look at urban life. The heartbeat of the street came alive, stood tall and proudly demanded to be taken seriously. And it was.

Now, rap has begun to evolve into nothing more than a vehicle to express ignorant, male-chauvinistic, pseudo-macho imagery. And it's sad. I would say that 90 percent of the rap product that I'm hearing every week centers around the same subject: sex, and the ability of the artist to partake of women as if they were nothing more than cattle.

Women in rap music are demeaned. They are made out to be nothing more than brainless sex objects that spend all their time looking to have an undying sexual appetite fulfilled.

I am surprised that women's groups have not spoken out against the way they are being portrayed by these artists. I could not list for you right now a single male rap artist that has given me the impression that he honestly understands what women are truly made of, or for that matter, respects a woman for what she is.

Recently in Minneapolis, three crew members of rapper L.L. Cool J were arrested for allegedly committing criminal sexual conduct with a 15-year-old girl. The young girl had attended the concert after having won backstage passes from a local radio station.

The flip-side of this is violence. Just a few weeks ago I was given a new rap single entitled "Act a Fool." The cover photograph shows the artist sporting a machine gun.

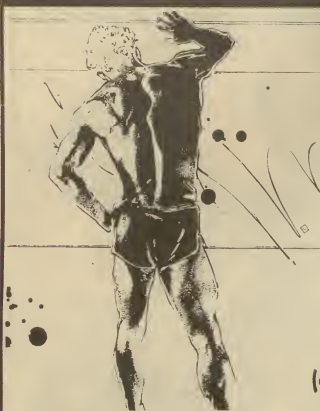
And, a newly formed independent record label that specializes in rap music, features two machine guns as part of their logo.

Young adults and teen-agers have always been the most impressionable among music consumers. The product they buy is more than just music. It's a way of life. A style of living. A role model. All things to be emulated. I'm afraid of the profound effect that the current direction in which rap music is heading will have on these youngsters.

There are so many important matters in today's world that need to be addressed. Rappers should take the challenge upon themselves to cover these facets of life. There's no telling what positive results could occur if all this energy could be harnessed

(Continued on page 49)

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## MOVIES

### Castro Theatre Series

# Hollywood Before The Infamous 'Code'

by Daniel Mangin

Openly gay characters and sexually liberated women were just two of the casualties of "the Code," the Hollywood movie studios' self-censorship plan that was drawn up in 1930 and strictly enforced from 1934 to 1961. The code was the result of pressure from various groups, most notably American Catholic bishops, who threatened a nationwide boycott of the movies if their standards of "decency" weren't met.

Oddly, the years between the writing of the code and the bishops' threats (now called the "pre-code" era) saw some of Tinseltown's spiciest offerings, movies that, if they lacked the "class" of the films of Hollywood's so-called "Golden Age," had among their virtues an often far more candid approach to human nature.

This Friday the Castro Theatre's second "Pre-Code" series of films from 1930-1933 begins with the Jean Harlow classics, *Bombshell* and *Platinum Blonde*, and continues with a different double

bill every night for the next two weeks. Among the highlights are the original version of *The Maltese Falcon*, in which it's abundantly clear that Sam Spade is sleeping with his partner's wife; *The Bitter Tea of General Yen*, an early Frank Capra film in which missionary Barbara Stanwyck falls in love with a Chinese warlord; and *Call Her Savage*, a Clara Bow film (one of her last) that features a scene in an anarchist/bohemian gay bar. None of these three situations—adultery, miscegenation or homosexuality—could have been depicted outright during the code years.

Among the lowlights (morally speaking) are *Safe in Hell*, an ultra-sleazy pic about a New Orleans hooker who flees to the South Sea after accidentally killing her trick—only to find herself the only white woman on an island of hardened criminals—and the rare *The Story Temple Drake*, based on William Faulkner's novel, *Sanctuary*. Also showing are the gangster epics,



Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. (left) plays Joe, the gangster who just wants to dance, in *Little Caesar*, starring Edward G. Robinson (right).

*Public Enemy* and *Little Caesar*, which launched the careers of James Cagney and Edward G. Robinson.

The early gangster talkies are as remarkable for their murky politics as they are for the stars' performances. Notions bordering on socialism crop up in many of them, not surprising considering the nation was in the throes

of the Depression. Some almost-gay characters also appear in these prototypical male-bonding films. In *Caesar*, Edward G. Robinson has little use for women, and his sidekick, Joe, an effeminate fellow, keeps jabbering about wanting to go straight and become, of all things, a dancer. "I don't want no dancing!" snarls the big shot Robin-

son. "I figure on making other people dance," he says, but when he comes to kill his pal because Joe knows too much, tough guy Robinson can't do it.

Castro programmer Anita Monga, who has booked the theatre for the past two years, says that the era immediately before

(Continued on page 30)

## TELEVISION

### 'Other Faces of AIDS'

# PBS Special to Focus On AIDS, Minorities

For many Americans, the face of AIDS is still that of a gay, white man. However, AIDS is also devastating black and Hispanic communities, a fact that has been largely unreported. Nearly one-third of reported AIDS cases involve black men, almost eight out of 10 babies born with the virus are black, and in some Hispanic communities the heterosexual transmission rate of the disease is six times greater than for whites.

The impact of AIDS on minority communities in the United States is the subject of *Other Faces of AIDS*, a comprehensive one-hour program narrated by ABC's medical correspondent George Strait, airing Monday, Sept. 11, from 10-11 p.m. on most PBS stations (check local listings).

*Other Faces of AIDS* covers a wide range of people and situations to illustrate the impact of AIDS on the minority community: from the recent death of ABC newsmen Max Robinson to a young mother, formerly a drug addict, who now worries that her child may have the disease; prostitutes who vow they will not work without using condoms, to drug addicts whose needs are so overpowering that the risk of AIDS is swept aside in the urgency of the moment.

There are interviews with gay black men who have felt a greater need for concealment than their white counterparts, to a spokesperson for the Haitian community who explains that in the Haitian culture it is often acceptable for the male to have multiple sex partners.

Despite numerous public information campaigns, tremendous media attention, and a general increase in public awareness about AIDS, the message has clearly missed its mark in the minority community.

How is it that AIDS has become such a problem for minorities? According to experts appearing in the special, one reason is the cultural denial of any prevalence of sexual practices that might lead to what was first described as a "homosexual disease."

Another factor is the higher incidence of intravenous drug use, and thus, shared contaminated needles, than in the white population.

Finally, an acceptance within certain Hispanic communities that men take multiple sexual partners may be contributing to a growth in heterosexual transmission.

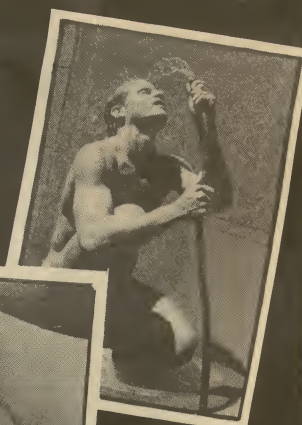
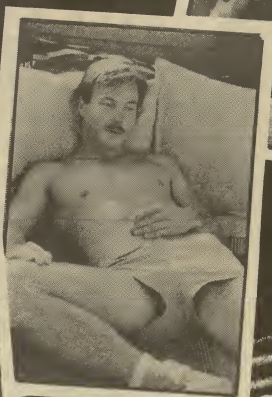
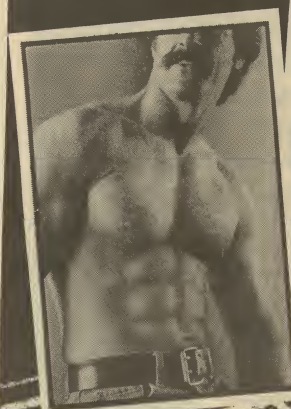
In the program, former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and the Rev. Jesse Jackson address AIDS education efforts being made in these communities across the country, and representatives from black and Hispanic organizations including the National Minority AIDS Council, La Liga Contra SIDA, and BEBASHI offer their perspectives on the situation.

The program was filmed in urban areas throughout the United States, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. ▼

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## Film Screenings at York to Benefit Women Emerging

**W**omen Emerging, a San Francisco-based support network that assists women who are leaving the sex industry, will be the beneficiary of a unique double bill and midnight show on human sexuality and love at San Francisco's York Theatre Sept. 9-10.

The three films are: *Kamikaze Hearts*, a rarely seen look at the lives and loves of women in the X-rated film industry; *Hold Me While I'm Naked*, an underground film classic directed by George Kuchar; and *Thundercrack*, which will be seen at a special midnight show on Saturday, Sept. 9.

After the 7:30 p.m. show Saturday, there will be a panel discussion with M.C. Rita Ricardo, headliner at the Condor club and staff member of WE; Ann Walls, chairperson of WE; Juliet Bashore, director of *Kamikaze Hearts*; Robin Layton, director of WE; Annette Haven, ex-porn star from the '70s and '80s; Fanny Fatale, publisher of *On Our Backs*, a lesbian erotica magazine; and Bobby Lilly, a spokesperson for San Francisco ACT (Against Censorship Together).

Women Emerging was started by Layton, an ex-prostitute and professional dominatrix in 1986. Its clients include "high class" call girls, street walkers and strip- pers.

Layton said, "We are very

pleased to be the beneficiary of this event. It's an 'only in San Francisco' kind of affair that will examine the controversial issues of women, sex and power."

*Kamikaze Hearts* (1986) has been variously described as a dramatic documentary, a "docu-drama" or a unique blend of fact and fiction. It is the "real life" story of Sharon Mitchell and Tina (Tigr) Mennett, lesbian lovers who worked as X-rated film actresses.

*Hold Me While I'm Naked* (1966), by underground filmmaker and instructor at the San Francisco Institute, George Kuchar, has been described as "a very direct and subtle, very sad and funny, look at nothing more or less than sexual frustration and loneliness."

*Thundercrack* (1975), which was directed by Curt McDowell and written by Kuchar, was described by Jack Babuscio in the *London Gay News* as a "steamy spoof film... whose prevailing mood is one of buoyancy and exhilaration. *Thundercrack* is, simply, pro-sex of all sorts: try it, you'll like it—that's the theme."

Show times for the double bill will be 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 7:30 and 10 p.m. Admission is \$5.

For more information, contact Robert Zelma at 776-8029 or Robin Layton, Women Emerging, 942 Market St. #307, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 982-3365. ▼



Sharon Mitchell and Tigr, lesbian lovers who work as X-rated film actresses, star in the docu-drama *Kamikaze Hearts*, this weekend at the York Theatre.

## Movies

(Continued from page 29)

the code was in many ways one of Hollywood's most liberal. Even though the studios had drawn up what appeared to be a rigid code, "it was actually toothless," she says, "because they never set up a way to enforce it."

But as a way to defuse potential trouble, Monga continues, "There was a formula operating at the time that basically held that a director could show as much licentious behavior as he wanted for the first 80 minutes,

as long as all the perpetrators paid dearly for it in the last 10."

The acknowledged master of this concept, cynically known in Hollywood as the "Law of Compensating Values," was famed director Cecil B. DeMille, whose *Madam Satan* screens with *Call Her Savage* Sept. 16. DeMille often hid behind the Bible,

Similarly, gay characters, although not plentiful in the immediate pre-code era, when they do appear "actually seem in some cases like they might be sexual beings, rather than neutered sissies, the usual stereotype," Monga says. In *Call Her Savage*, she says, "two of the waiters in the gay bar do a sexy

**Even such innocuous gay "buzzwords" of pre-code films—"pansy," "fairy," "nance"—were outlawed as likely to corrupt.**

graphically illustrating its more salacious stories—he even included hints of homosexual love in some of his silent films—interspersing the sexy parts with quotations from the good book condemning the action. *Madam Satan* is a more contemporary affair that works on the same principle. Monga says a party aboard a zeppelin in the second half of the film has a decidedly "decadent and freewheeling" feel to it.

**I**n films like *Public Enemy*, the reality of pre-marital sex is treated more matter-of-factly than it was during the code era, which saw precious few indications that sex actually occurred between married couples much less unwed ones. In the famous scene where Mae Clarke gets a grapefruit smashed in her face by James Cagney, the unmarried duo are at breakfast after quite obviously shacking up the night before.

The grapefruit scene underscores a negative element of some pre-code films, namely violence toward women. In *The Story of Temple Drake*, the particularly ugly myth that women secretly desire or enjoy violence to themselves is lent more credence than modern audiences might find tolerable.

The misogyny of some film genres notwithstanding, the period is notable, as critics such as Molly Haskell have written, for the freedom—sexual and otherwise—granted to women characters. Women were able to initiate sexual encounters in the pre-code talkies without, Haskell says, being labeled unfeminine, and their desires tended to run the same gamut as men's.

After the code, when their chief job in films was to uphold the sanctity of the American family, women's sexuality was rendered less provocatively.

little dance together, and it's obvious it's not just a gag. This admission of the existence of a homosexual subculture seems amazing compared to films made between 1934 and the early 1960s."

When it came to homosexuality, the code was brief but blunt, lumping it into a general prohibition against "sex perversion or any inference of it." Elsewhere in the code is the warning that neither "natural" nor human law—with the Catholic Church's interpretation of the former holding great sway—could be culled.

Vito Russo has written in *The Celluloid Closet* how code administrators were merciless about deleting even the most fleeting references to gayness from scripts or finished films. Even such innocuous gay "buzzwords" of pre-code films—"pansy," "fairy," "nance"—were outlawed as "likely to corrupt."

For all its high-sounding prose about protecting the morals of the nation, the code was, in the final analysis, a blatant attempt at social control. The warnings against showing "casual or promiscuous sex," miscegenation and what the censors had decided was "sex perversion" are more obvious examples, but at the height of their power the code administrators also used the prohibition against the ridicule of organized religion (sound anything like Jesse Helms today?) to stifle legitimate debate in that area, and even attempted to steer some filmmakers away from anti-government positions.

The Castro series is a sampler of the kinds of films that led to the institution of the code. Melodramas and films with purely camp appeal predominate, with the musical, social drama and comedy genres represented as well. ▼

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## Changing One's Mind

**T**he confusion caused by one's nervous indecision can often be difficult to communicate to an audience. At times, hard answers are sought when only gray areas can be found. When the strength of one's decision is severely undermined by the tug of one's heart strings, the resolution to a ticklish amorous situation rarely involves a happy ending in which the winner takes all.

Whenever an author is up against a wall and no logical loophole can be found with which to escape from the reality of his predicament, he can almost always fall back on the fickle female flip-flop act as a last minute form of "deus ex machina." Why? Because, sexist though it may be, one of the oldest literary ploys involves a woman's right to change her mind.

Changing one's mind, however, also requires a person to deal with the moral consequences of such an action for, once one has opted to tiptoe down a path filled with dangerous discoveries, one must be willing to take responsibility for one's choices. That's the stern message given to us in music works ranging from *Idomeneo* to *Into The Woods*; from *La Calisto* to *Così Fan Tutte*.

### Bear Me No Malice

Cavalli's *La Calisto* features one of the more twisted librettos in the repertoire. In this opera the eternally horny Giove descends from Mount Olympus, is taken with the beauty of Calisto (a nymph of Diana) and, at the suggestion of Mercury, transforms himself into the virgin goddess so that he can handily woo the confused Calisto.

Needless to say, when Diana returns to the scene chaos ensues. Shortly thereafter, Giove's wife, Guinone, catches her husband in the act of wooing Calisto and, as a means of revenge, transforms the innocent young nymph into a little bear. Always one to get his way, Giove transforms the bear into the constellation Ursa Minor and is reunited with Calisto in the heavens surrounding Mount Olympus.

While much of this mythological claptrap is confusing, the Santa Fe Opera's recent production of *La Calisto* raised serious obstacles to anyone who is not an absolute fiend for baroque opera. I must confess that, despite director John Cox's attempts to transform *La Calisto* into a viable entertainment, I found myself supremely bored with the proceedings. Supertitles (which are made impossible by the dimensions of the Santa Fe Opera House) might have helped matters but, when push comes to shove, I could find no solid dramatic momentum behind this production.

Set and costume designer Robert Perdziola (who set *La Calisto* atop a dangerously curved and raked platform) didn't seem the slightest bit concerned with the safety of his singers, and his mix of traditional costumes with space-age punk outfits was highly uncalled for.

When theatrical conceit is based only on conceit, it's a sure sign that dramatic coherence is at a premium.

Credit nevertheless goes to Kevin Langan's resonant Giove, Mikael Melby's athletic Mer-

curio, Janice Hall's feminine Calisto, James Bowman's sympathetic Endimione and Kathryn Gameroni's horny Satyr. While mezzo-soprano Tatian Troyanos was all puffed-up pomp and circumstance as Diana, the strongest musical contributions of the evening came from Joanne Kolomyjec's outraged Guinone and the hilarious drag characterization of the aging nymph, Linfea, by tenor John Fryatt (whose diction and stagecraft could be a model for any and all aspiring singers). Justin Brown conducted.

### Sadder but Wiser

While John Cox's production of *La Calisto* seemed to lack a great deal of purpose, Peter Sellars' staging of *Così Fan Tutte* at PepsiCo Summerfare was filled with tremendous doses of humor, anger and dramatic insight. Set in a seaside diner owned by Despina and Don Alfonso (depicted here as a disillusioned Vietnam veteran), this interpretation of Mozart's "School For Lovers"

(Continued on page 49)



James Maddalena, Susan Larson, Frank Kelley and Janice Felty bid each other farewell in Act I of Mozart's *Così Fan Tutte* at PepsiCo Summerfare.



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## AROUND TOWN



Clockwise from top left, Nelson serves 'em up at the Special; a friendly face at Gilmore's on Hyde Street; the cozy inside of Gilmore's; Tony (bottom of page) manager of the Special; Special patrons Robert and Rudy. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

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**T**ony Ziegler, head bartender at the Special on Castro Street, has a warm attitude toward his clientele—the neighbors.

Many years ago the Special was named Club Unique. When the new owners took over they decided not to be so uppity and dubbed the bar Nothing Special. When the "Nothing" of the neon sign over the door burned out, the bar became just plain Special.

Ziegler describes it as an ordinary bar—nothing special, no specialty of the house, just friendly conversation. Happy hour is 5-7:30 when the drink prices go down, and occasionally the hors d'oeuvres come out.

The Special has a lot of motorcycle clubs as regulars. The bar boasts a bowling team and two pool teams, Special Breed and Specialettes (a co-ed group).

In the past, the bar has held AIDS fundraisers and plans to continue doing so in the future.

Gilmore's on Hyde near the Cala grocery store has been in business for more than 12 years. Co-owned by lesbians Peggy Forster and Charlotte Colman, the quaint, neighborhood bar serves the Nob Hill area. It is a mixed bar as far as the male/female ratio goes.

They occasionally have hot-dog fundraisers for Godfather Service Fund that you won't want to miss.

Hunting for a parking space is not a joyful experience, but if you're really in a jam, check out the underground lot at Calas. Just don't plan a five-cocktail marathon stay at the bar, or you may discover your car has been rudely towed away.

Gilmore's offers large, picture windows with a fine view of two cable cars, the California and the Hyde, going up and down the hill.

The upstairs balcony creates a more intimate atmosphere, and the bartenders can warm things up a bit by pouring delicious Irish coffee with real whipping cream.



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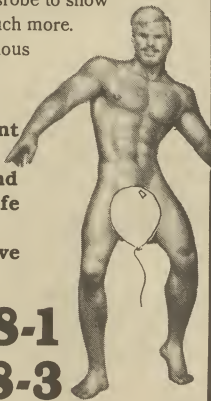
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## Steven Perreira Is '89 Leather Daddy's Boy

Almost \$6,000 went to the coffers of the AIDS Emergency Fund last Sunday, Sept. 3, at the Leather Daddy's Boy Contest at the S.F. Eagle for the seventh annual event. To say it was a fun day would have been an understatement. Danny Williams was in top form co-emceeing with Leather Daddy V Zach Long in one of the most fun-filled afternoons yet.

Originally, 16 "boys" signed up for the competition, but on "B Day," only 14 showed up. Judges Don L. (from Los Angeles), Al Jones (South Bay Leather Daddy), Christian Haren of the AEF, Patrick Batt (Mercury Mail Order) and perennial runner-up leather/uniform maven Steve Lesh (South Bay Leather/Uniform Group) stated emphatically that they gave their points to the contestant who manifested the most honesty in his answers to their questions.

Stir in the scintillating Gail Wilson accompanied by Wayne Love on the keyboard, auctioneers Chris Minor, Jason Ladd, Leather Daddy Dennis Graff and countless volunteers and it all added up to one of the sparkling events of the year. Thanks, Alan Selby!

When it was all over, outgoing Daddy's Boy Rick Ramirez placed the leather sash on his successor, 22-year-old Steven Perreira, who moved here a scant three months ago from Maryland and currently resides in Hayward.

There was a tie for the runner-up spots and based on the amount of \$1 votes raised, runners-up were David Thompson second and Carl Girard third.

The money raised by the contestants was almost one third of the final figure and coupled with the Robert Uyviri artist proofs (\$1,045 for four of them) and leather gear that were auctioned off, the final figure was notably a boon for AEF, which gives grants to AIDSARC persons.



Gail Wilson and Steven Perreira, Leather Daddy's Boy contest winner, at the Eagle. (Photo: Marcus)

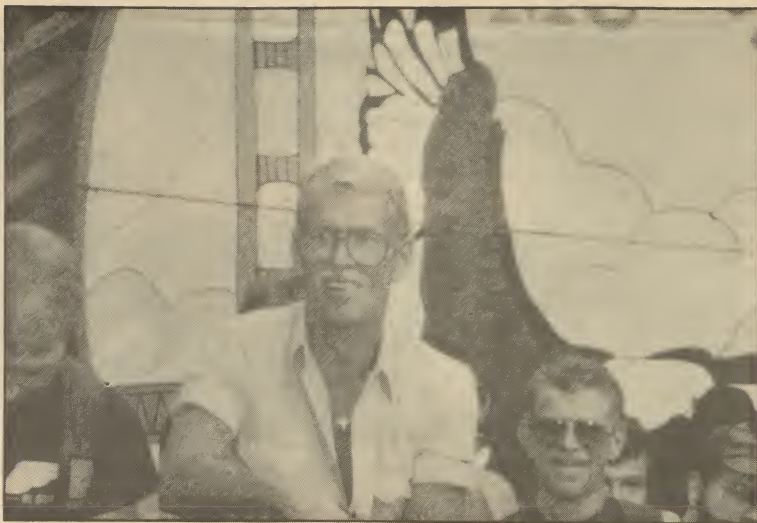
The afternoon was fun and the fantasies of the contestants were, ahem, enlightening, even to seasoned veterans in the audience. One was into crocheting, all were into sex, including one who was into man hole watching (as opposed to manhole watching). Pay attention! Quiz at the end of this column!

The Golden Gate Guards produced what was close to a gourmet buffet for the beer bust participants and the S.F. Eagle staff came through (as always) pushing out the beer and cocktails even though their hearts were heavy at the loss of manager

Terry Thompson's lover, Steven Blair, on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 2. The entire community extends its deepest sympathy to Terry and Steven's family at the loss of such a wonderful, giving and caring as well as talented man. This is one vacancy of the Eagle's staff that will never find an equal replacement. The Eagle staff labored furiously and joyfully all afternoon with the crush of natives, tourists and everyone else there for the Daddy's Boy contest. Hugs and thanks to everyone who participated and here's wishing Daddy's Boy '89 a good year. I know you'll all support his efforts!



Daddy's Boy winners David Thompson (1st runner-up), winner Steven, and Carl Girard (2nd runner-up). (Photo: Marcus)



Leather Daddy's Boy contest judge Christian Haren, AIDS/ARC activist and educator, will be honored at the White House later this year. (Photo: Marcus)

Well, here on home turf wasn't the only place where excitement was brimming. Close to 500 bike run adherents made the trek south for the Satyrs M/C Badger Flats weekend run. I got the info from five different people that all said it was called the run of "lines and stings."

Apparently Mother Nature had nothing against the Satyrs since the weekend was blessed with beautiful weather, but hornets nests somehow got disturbed and several attendees are nursing stings as well as hangovers.

Our own Mr. Lurch distinguished himself not only as Florence Nightingale, aiding those who were stung, but wowed the audience with several bits on guest show night including an original piece on leather and drag. One dude from down south wowed the audience with his one-minute version of *Cone With the Wind* while some San Diego guys did a riotous thing about chickens with a cluck, cluck here and a cluck, cluck there!

The Fire Fairy Ray was singled out for his dedication to keeping the fires burning for warmth and if you think it's easy keeping close to 500 men warm around a campfire, try it yourself sometime!

This particular run is always a success story, and not confined to the state of California. There were some five Australians from the Jackaroos and a couple more from the Griffins. There were almost a half-dozen from Germany (Munich and Dusseldorf), not to mention a more than healthy representation of our local dudes.

It's safe to say that the Satyrs have truly reached an enviable plateau in bike club activity. Badger Flats is now considered an "international" and "must go" event. If they're not careful, they're just liable to out-do Hellfire's Inferno. In spite of the huge crowd, no one had to wait more than 12 minutes for their meals. Getting it on with somebody hot took less time than that! Congrats to the Satyrs! Good show! Can I have an application for next year's run?

There were a lot of dudes up at the RushRiv for fun and games including Bronski Beat, which garnered a big crowd at the Woods. The sun worshippers joined the leather madness in Laguna Beach where IML Guy Baldwin was holding court with a hunky group from all over the state. Lots of tourists up and down our state and who can tell the "climax" total with all this

and heavenly weather too!

\*\*\*  
This coming weekend, you've either got to be into jazz or antique cars. The main headliner at the Rush Riv Jazz Festival (on Johnson's Beach) this weekend is Chick Correa. Ritchie Cole will be wailing away too and if you go, keep your eyes and ears open for Bob Lucas and Lois Tanner. They perform regularly on weekends at Scott's up there and this is their first festival appearance which just happens to coincide with their new album release. The Gig in Guerneville is where it's at for jazz aficionados.

Closer to home, well, is there any doubt in your mind that the Freewheelers' Concours d'Elegance is the only place to be Saturday afternoon, Sept. 9? On display from noon to 1700 hours at Dominican College in San Rafael will be more than 100 cars owned by your gay brothers and sisters promoting this year's theme, "The Chevrolet" (remember: "It's as American as mom, apple pie, baseball and Ummmmph, Dinah Shore"). For only \$5 you get all those beautiful cars, beautiful men, beautiful

site, tailgate parties, music, barbecue and cruising, cruising, cruising!

They'd also like you to bring

some canned food for the S.F. Food Bank. You see they want to fill a vintage truck with food to deliver to the food bank. Part of your ducat price will go to the cause as well. Cars from the '20s to the present. Take 101 north to the Central San Rafael exit and follow the signs to Dominican College. Bring a friend or two. For more info, call 824-7140! Hi, Chris!

If San Rafael is too close for comfort, there's the big rodeo in San Diego, too, this weekend. Posters are up all over South of Market bars if you're interested in the horsey set. Spurs, cowboys, cowgirls... go for it!

**Update: Royalty.** Unless you're really into the "royalty" trip, you'd never know there's a lackluster campaign for grand duke and grand duchess. Voting is this Saturday. Bruce and Jesse are running for the duke title and the duchess candidate should have it in the bag since there's no one else running. He/she must, however, get 51 percent of the votes cast. Lotsa luck to all running.

**Update: Bike Clubs.** Hey, there's another new club form-

ing. They've been meeting in secret for the past few months and will make their formal "debut" during leather week (Sept. 19-24). They'll be known from that time forward as the Trusted Servants SLC (sober leather club) when their constitution will be ratified on Sept. 17. And would you believe there are similar clubs in Los Angeles and San Diego as well as all over the country? The bars will be glad to learn of this "trend." This applies not only to alcohol, but drugs as well. And their interim corresponding secretary is no slouch, either. *Marrone!* (That's Italian for *Wow!*) Watch for their "coming out" party sometime during this month!

**Update: Ukiah, Calif.** Another new club in Mendocino County. It's called the "Billy Club"—40-50 members. They gathered last weekend for an "outing"—nude swimming hole and all; show; food; only \$15! Only requirement is you have to be a resident of that particular county. Former residents now living anywhere in California are eligible. Run, don't walk. I love that name, "Billy Club." It does

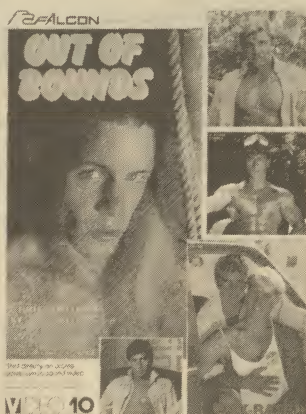
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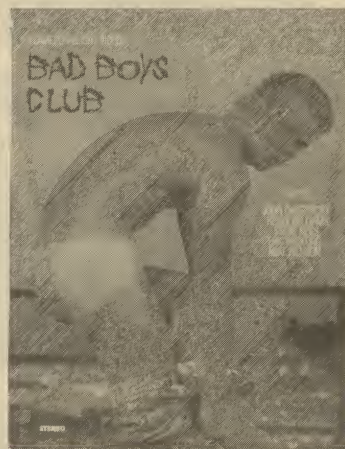
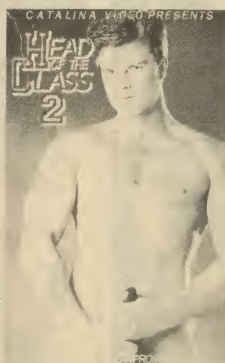
All the Daddy's Boys on parade. (Photo: Marcus)

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Famous fins of the '59 Cadillac will be featured at the Freewheelers' Concours d'Elegance Sept. 9 in San Rafael. (Photo: Marcus)

## Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

have noteworthy connotations!

**Update:** The White House. Would you believe our own Christian Haren has been invited to dine with President Bush at the White House? Being honored for all his efforts on behalf of AIDS/ARC people and commended for bringing the "truth" to our nation's youth about AIDS. Hey, this is heavy duty and aren't you just as proud as Christian himself! Sure you are!

**Update:** Now that S.F. Park & Rec has done away with all those nooks and crannies in Buena Vista Park, Robert Pruzanadana had to do something doesn't he? (Brian Jones is still hanging in

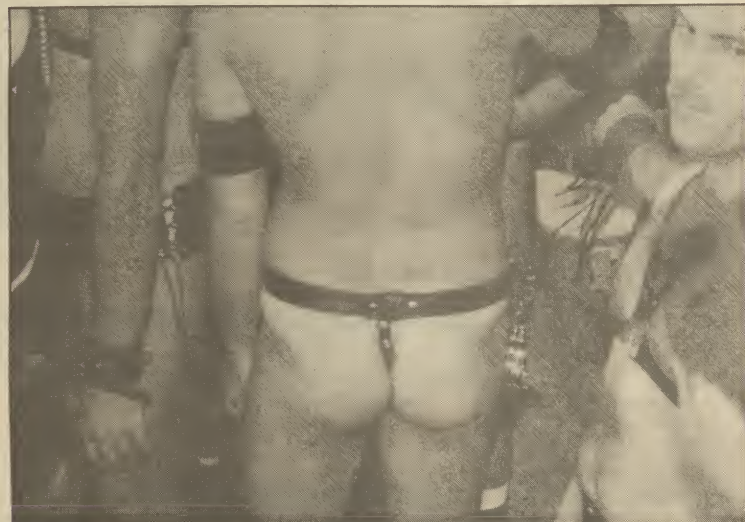
there!) So Pruzanadana-dana is exploring the new cockring craze! You know all those over-sized donut shaped ones; those new brass ones; those new velcro ones? At first I thought he was going to have a ring toss at the Folsom Street Fair, but darlings, half a dozen cock rings will just not be enough for a game like that!

**Update:** If you see Sister Boom Boom (Jack Fertig) limping around this week, give him a pat on the back to comfort him after the cosmetic surgery he had this past Monday (Labor Day). Let's face it, getting a Prince Albert isn't all that fun, is it Boom, Boom, darrrling?

**Update:** All that wild applause coming from the Eagle's patio last Monday was David

Kelsey's stunning performance for and with the Gay Marching Band and Twirling Corps beer bust. What a trouper! What with Danny Williams knocking 'em dead on Sunday and David Kelsey being equally funny entertaining the next day, I wasn't a bit surprised to hear a veteran Eagle-ette quip: "Jeeze, this place is better than the Improv!" Hey, you gotta laugh once in a while during these trying times! And while you're living and loving and being generous to all the worthy causes facing our community, just be sure you do it in leather!

P.S.: I just know you're all going to elect Candi del Rey Ms. Tavern Guild at the SFTG Picnic this weekend, aren't you? Candy always does a good job! ▼



Young buns! At the Leather Daddy's Boy contest. (Photo: Marcus)

## Cycle Runners Motorcycle Club Camps It Up Deep in the Woods

by Dennis McMillan

The Cycle Runners Motorcycle Club presented their annual Labor Day weekend run and program centering around the theme "Hawaii" at their Big Basin campsite.

It was a sellout show with every bench in the woods filled. Rangers from far and near came to see the spectacle. It must have truly amazed them that these part-time bikers/part-time show biz folk and campers (in both senses of the word) would set up a load of fake, painted, cardboard trees in the middle of a forest filled with the real thing.

The show was a highly condensed version of the classic James Michener's *Hawaii*, a history of the island paradise from creation to Pearl Harbor to American exploitation.

Beginning with special effects that rivaled Spielberg (especially after one has sipped several Singapore Slings and downed a couple more Mai Tais), the show utilized an electronic array of strobe and laser lights and unearthly prerecorded sounds as a Mana Loa facsimile erupted into an awesome, tin-foil lava explosion.

This was followed by a spectacular procession of island princesses, vestal virgins (you had to stretch your imagination here), and native men scantily clad in grass skirts or ti plant leaves (it should be noted that portions of the show verged on an X-rating due to some bare buttocks).

There was not merely sex but even a touch of good old Hollywood violence as an elaborately costumed King Kamehameha in red feather cape and hood commanded that one of the "vir-

(Continued on page 48)

# Can We Escape The Ape Culture?

**Primal Threat: An Introduction to Homophobia**  
by Irving Ashby, Comstock Publications, \$16.95.

by Marv. Shaw

New contexts for the gay culture give us new perspectives on ourselves, as Harry Hay, Aaron Shurin, Dennis Altman and several others demonstrated in Mark Thompson's *Gay Spirit: Myth and Meaning*. Now, from out of somewhere, comes this 179-page analytic-polemic that puts our social status in a historical framework in which humankind is seen as struggling toward a universal government of What's Right and away from the one set by our hominid predecessors, the apes. That one is simply Who's Boss and is a territorially structured power arrangement, ruled by the strongest ape.

Ashby goes to considerable lengths to show how the territorial concept has evolved from the simian one of a small band in a few acres of treetops to a highly diversified one in which humans realize power, with all its rewards, in complete cultures in myriad ways.

The author places the origin of What's Right, a structure of laws determined by reason, in ancient Greece and its singular notion that a democratic government was more just and effective than a tyrannical one.

True, the Greek city-states had their tyrants, but there were also those thoughtful enough to counteract tyranny: Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, to name only the most significant. So began the contest between Who's Boss and What's Right. Interestingly, some of the most brilliant of the latter were homosexuals.

Perhaps that's a major reason for two things. First, What's Right guarantees socio-sexual difference be accommodated reasonably. Second, because such difference is a matter of dissent to the Who's Boss mindset, it is seen by The Bosses as dangerous.

Therefore, The Bosses contrive in multiple ways to keep homosexual social dissent opprobrious, threatening and criminal. These ways permeate world societies, even corrupting those functions that supposedly are intended to keep us physically and

mentally healthy and spiritually hopeful.

So Ashby diagnoses homophobia as an institutionalized reaction of a culture's Bosses, of whatever secondary markings they happen to carry, to dissenters who insist that What's Right be the operative mode of social governance and who repeatedly point out and deplore the continuation of Who's Boss, no matter how that mode is disguised and manipulated. All modern sophistications notwithstanding, The Boss is still the strongest ape. Homosexuals are still the most tempting and convenient victims—in great part because they dare to be so different and are so easy to be made villains in the group mind that The Boss has found so easy to dominate.

Ashby sees homosexuals as the prime adepts at what he calls the aesthetic faculty, a kind of hand-

## PRIMAL THREAT

An Introduction To Homophobia



IRVING ASHBY

maiden to What's Right. Paradoxically, this distinction, so marvelously demonstrated by the Leonardos and Michaelangelos, is both celebrated and denied in the game of Who's Boss. The aesthetic faculty may be valuable, but it can't be practiced by a homosexual.

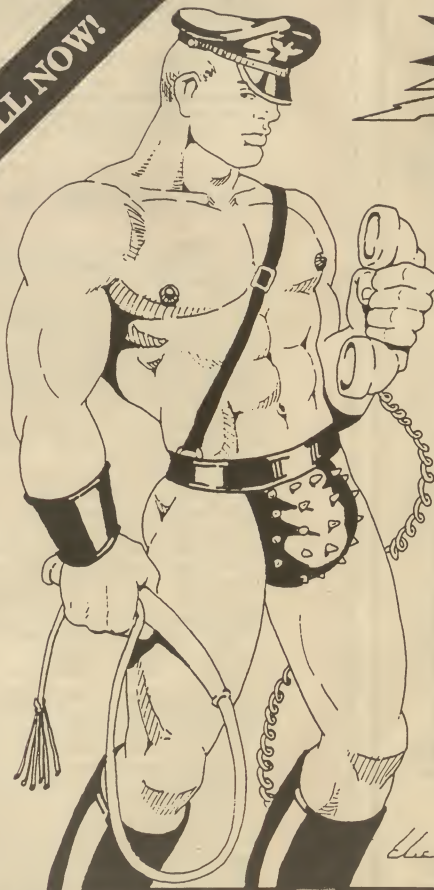
Something of the same paradox exists in *Primal Threat*. On the one hand, it is the threat by The Boss Ape to keep us barbarous and subjugated. On the other hand, it is a "threat" even more primal, an intrinsic human drive to be civilized and to conclude Who's Boss forever.

This is an extraordinary book. While the anger propelling the polemic sometimes induces the author to extremities of assertion and style, he is basically right most of the time. However, there are some odd omissions that cause one to wonder. For example, there are anecdotes about contemporary life in which the participants remain unidentified. Further, there are few attributions.

The most serious omission of all is the virtual anonymity of the author. Beyond his name, he is not identified at all. For the author of a work that scores so resoundingly, remaining shadowy is puzzling indeed. ▼

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### Theatre Season At Eureka Opens Sept. 20

*Tales of the Lost Formicans*, a dark comedy, will have its West Coast premiere as the season opener for the Eureka Theatre.

In *Tales of the Lost Formicans*, alien beings examine the artifacts and rituals of modern American culture. The aliens try to reconstruct the messy life story of a family that has become estranged from one another under the stress of divorce and mental illness.

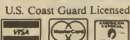
*Tales of the Lost Formicans*, written by Constance Congdon and directed by Julie Hebert, will preview Sept. 14, 15, 16, 17 and 19, opens on Sept. 20 and plays Wednesday-Sunday until Oct. 15. Tickets are: \$11-\$17. Showtimes are: 8 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday, Sunday 7:30 p.m. For tickets and information call 558-9898. ▼

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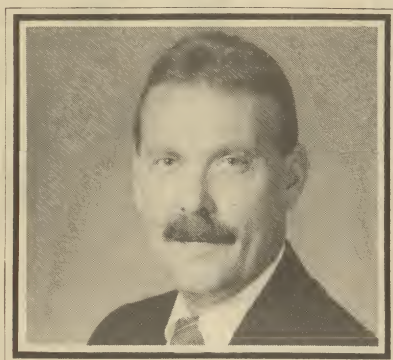
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## FRIDAY 8

- **An Evening at La Cage:** open run. Tue-Thur. & Sun.: 8 p.m.; Fri. & Sat.: 8 & 10:30 p.m. \$17.50 w/two drink min. Tickets: 391-9999 or BASS/Ticketmaster. On Broadway, 435 Broadway. Light dinners and full bar available.
- **El Rio:** Enjoy oysters on the half shell, happy hour 5-7 p.m. DJs Carlos Grant & Elton Brown. No cover. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Fraternity:** progressive modern music. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. at Scooters, 22 4th St. 777-0880.
- **Dick Hindman, Jazz Pianist:** Fridays & Saturdays, 8 p.m. Le Piano Zinc, 708 14th St. (at Market & Church), SF. 431-5266.
- **Lesbian & Gay Writers, Reading:** Dorothy Allison, Robert Gluck, Kevin Killian, Camille Roy. 8 p.m. \$3-4 scale. Southern Exposure Gallery at Project Artaud, 401 Alabama, SF.
- **SF Hotshots Men's Gay Basketball:** All levels welcome. 1525 Waller St. 6:30-9 p.m. Tony Jasinski, 621-2710.
- **Outlook:** Lesbian/gay video plays the 2nd & 4th Fridays. 7:30 p.m. Cable 30 Cupertino, Los Altos.
- **Women In Black:** all women concerned about increasing tension in the Middle East are invited to join SF Women In Black in a silent vigil this and every Friday, 12:30-1:30 p.m., in Civic Center Plaza opposite the Polk St. entrance to SF City Hall. Palestinian, Jewish & American women who oppose Israel's occupation of the West Bank & Gaza Strip. East Bay contingent, every Friday, 1-2 p.m., corner of Telegraph & Haste, Berkeley.
- **Electric City:** South Bay, KCAT, every Friday 7:30 p.m.
- **Fetish Night:** 735 Tehama, 9 p.m.-6 a.m. Exhibit the fetish of your choice. Males 18+. Info: 621-1887.
- **Social Gathering:** for the supporters of Kairos House, 114 Douglass, 5-7 p.m. Information: 861-0877.
- **T.G.I.F.:** Bay Area Career Women present T.G.I.F. from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Charpe's, 131 Gough.
- **Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Attitudinal healing support group, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.
- **Strippers: Photographs of Their Working Lives:** Exhibition documents the working lives of San Francisco strippers. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission, S.F., opening reception 6-9 p.m. Open Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. 431-6911.
- **The Transfer:** Join Bruce '89 for his last 'Campaign' Party, 8 p.m.
- **Hospice by the Bay:** Volunteer training application deadline is today. 1550 Sutter, Suite 300, S.F., call 673-2020 for more information.



• **Bubbles in the Think Tank:** An evening of comedy by Elisa De Carlo. Through September 26. Monday & Tues-

- **SF FrontRunners:** Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse, GG Park, 9 a.m. No-host brunch follows. All welcome. 453-4118.
- **Town Meeting:** State Assemblywoman Jackie Speier (D-SF/San Mateo counties) will meet with constituents, 1:30 p.m., at South San Francisco Municipal Center, 33 Arroyo Drive. Call 871-4100 for details.
- **Picnic:** Sponsored by University of California Gay and Lesbian Alumni. Bring your own food/drink. Charcoal provided. Lake Temescal, Oakland, 2 p.m.-sunset. \$2 donation. Proceeds go to gay/lesbian scholarship fund. Call 272-0566.
- **Ministry of Light:** Annual celebration and fundraising event. Free wine and food. Entertainment provided. 5-7 p.m. at Tracy Gary's home in Ross. Call 457-1131 for info.
- **Men Seeking Relationships:** Mixer/workshop, MCC Building, 150 Eureka, in the Castro, 7:30 p.m. \$5. Social hour follows group discussions. Call 343-8541.
- **S.F. Hiking Club:** Hike at Inverness Ridge. Meet under Safeway sign at Market and Dolores, 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch and water. \$7.40 shared. Strenuous 12-mile hike. Call 665-5578 for info.

## SUNDAY 10

- **Electric City:** SF cable 35, 10 p.m. The erotic art of Mark Chester is featured.
- **El Rio:** Features John Dilao Tropical Breeze, Tropical Variety. 4-8 p.m. 3158 Mission.
- **Club St. John:** Singer-porn star David Burrill and U.S. Male star Stephan. Kris Francis emcees. 8 p.m. Cover \$3, no cover before 7:30. 170 W. St. John St., San Jose (408) 947-1667.
- **SF FrontRunners:** Fairyland Loop. Meet at Fairyland entrance in Lake Merritt, Oakland, at 10 a.m. Everyone welcome. Call 453-4118 for details and carpool info.
- **Men's Brunch:** For older gay men (60+). Sponsored by Operation Concern GLOE program. Free. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero. Noon-3 p.m. Bring food to share. 626-7000 for info.
- **Ragtime Concert:** Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band begins its 12th season at Ashkenaz Music and Dance Club, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 4-6 p.m. \$6.
- **Shanti Cookout:** For PWAs and friends. Bicentennial Grove, 25th and Lincoln, in Golden Gate Park. Free. Call 777-2273 for details.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Balkan Rhapsody Trip Social. Find out more about our upcoming trip to Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. 7 p.m. 304 Gold Mine Dr., SF. Call Nicholas, 641-0999, for details concerning the trip.
- **Religious Science of San Francisco:** Lecture, "Be Where Your Feet Are," the law of attraction is where my commitment is and where I AM. Preceded by a healing experience at 10:30 a.m. 25 Van Ness/Market. 641-1702.
- **Amateur Night:** Bruce '89 emcees. 9 p.m. at The New Peter Pans, 45 Turk.
- **SF Women's Business League:** Fall season meeting at Park Bowl, 5 p.m. Haight Street at the Panhandle.
- **PWA Pals:** Weekly meetings bring together PWAs, PWARCs and HIV+ men looking for meaningful relationships. Call 621-5380 for info.
- **Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns Worship:** Janie Spahr speaks on "From Fear to Empowerment." 5 p.m., 7th Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1329 7th Ave., near Judah. Wheelchair accessible.
- **Men's Clinic:** free/confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., 6-8 p.m. Call 644-0425.

## SATURDAY 9

- **San Francisco Blues Festival:** This Saturday and Sunday at Great Meadow at Fort Mason, Marina Boulevard at Laguna. 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. both days. \$15 at the door; \$12.50 in advance; \$20 ticket for both days available only in advance. Bass/Ticketmaster. Free parking at Crissy Field. Call 826-6837 for info.
- **Autumn Plant Sale:** Sponsored by the African Violet Society of San Francisco. San Francisco County Fair Bldg., 9th Avenue at Lincoln in Golden Gate Park. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 626-1052 for info.
- **CREW:** gay house music club. Every Saturday, 9:30 p.m.-afterhours, 21+. \$8. 520 4th St./Bryant. Call: 978-CREW.
- **Mystique:** dance to the rapture of over 400 women at Scooters, 22 4th St. 227-0135.
- **SF Wrestling Club:** Workouts every other Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms, styles of wrestling; all ages, weights, levels welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.
- **A Tribute to the Memory of You:** Original musical chronicling the trying times in a gay man's life. Sept. 9, 10, 16, 17 at 2 p.m. matinee performances. \$10/advance, \$12/door. Free to PWAs & their lovers. Russian River Theatre Cntr, Guerneville. Call 869-9107.
- **Turf Club:** Live music. Wild Fire Band. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover. 22517 Mission Blvd, Hayward. 881-9877.
- **Theatre Rhinoceros:** 12th season opens tonight with "Friedrich," a campy yet historically based comedy. Runs Wednesdays-Sundays thru Oct. 15, 8 p.m. Tickets \$8-15. 2926 16th St. Call 861-5079 for info.
- **Rummage Sale:** Lesbian/Gay Chorus of S.F. will sell furniture, framed artwork, etc. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 3978 18th St. Call 586-8022 to donate.
- **Gay Artists and Writers Collective:** Musician jam and party. Call Jon Sugar at 731-2424 for info.
- **El Rio:** Features Buck Naked & The Bare Bottom Boys, Scout's Honor. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. 3158 Mission.
- **Maud's Auction:** Going, going, gone! 25 years of Maud's memorabilia. 8 p.m. Maud's, 937 Cole.
- **Gay & Lesbian Historical Society Fundraising Garage Sale:** Harvey Milk (Eureka Valley) Branch Library, 16th St. near Market. Sept. 9-10, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Donations needed. Call 648-8455.

# WEEK



day, 9 p.m. \$6. EXTheatre, 366 Eddy, San Francisco. For reservations call 415/931-1094.

## MONDAY 11

- **Outlook:** lesbian/gay video. 10:30 p.m. on Sacramento cable 47.
- **Animal Mondays at Club St. John:** Male exotic dancing with emcee Lucy Manhattan. \$99 drink specials, no cover. 10 p.m. 170 W. St. John St., San Jose. 408/947-1667.
- **SF Jacks:** Ethiopian Coptic Night. Cop a feel with men who like to jack-off with other men. \$6 suggested donation. Call 543-3433.
- **Community Action Network News:** every Monday, 7:30 p.m. Mountain View Cable 30.
- **Co-Dependent No More Support Group:** facilitated by Bob Pettyman. 7-8:30 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass St.
- **Hayward & Tri-City HIV+ Support Group:** for PWAS/PWARCS and their loved ones. Every Monday, 10:11-30 a.m. or 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 2:30-4 p.m. Call: 887-0566.
- **HIV+ Spiritual Support Group:** weekly, SF MCC, 150 Eureka. Call: 863-4434.
- **Alanon:** Meeting for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV-positive concerns. Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 7:30-9 p.m. Call: 621-REST.
- **Emergence/San Francisco:** Gay Christian Scientist group meets at 7:30 p.m. Call: 221-HOME.
- **Spiritual Support Groups for HIV+ Individuals:** Sponsored by the United Methodist AIDS Project, Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez, S.F., 7-9 p.m. Call 647-6051 or 752-3222.
- **Support Groups for PWA and Those Concerned About AIDS:** Ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 p.m. The meetings will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Call 929-4186 for details.
- **Bay Area Theatresports:** Members of the local theatre/comedy community perform. 8 p.m. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F. Call 824-8220 for reservations. \$6.
- **Modern Times Bookstore:** Mother Jones arts editor Peggy Orenstein will discuss politics and the arts. 7:30 p.m. 968 Valencia, S.F. Call 282-9246 for info.
- **Frameline Presents:** Begins its 8th season on Viacom Cable 25 in SF with *Half A Million Strong*, a powerful documentation of the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights. Every Mon. at 8:30 p.m. Frameline also solicits tapes for broadcast: 415/861-5245.

## TUESDAY 12

- **AIDS Emergency Fund:** Board meeting, 7 p.m. at Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, Van Ness at Pine, S.F. Call 441-6407 for details.
- **Social and Potluck:** Santa Cruz Lesbian and Gay Community Center sponsors. Loudon Nelson Center. 7:30-9:45 p.m. 408/475-8268 for info.
- **Workshop for Caregivers:** "Back Care, Bedside Mobility and Exercise." 7-9:30 p.m., Garden Sullivan Hospital, 2700 Geary, S.F. \$10. Advance registration required. Call 648-4045 for info.
- **Radical Women:** "Oppressions—The Capitalist Connection and the Socialist Solution." Dinner at 6:45 with donation. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. 523A Valencia. Call 864-1278 for details.
- **Health Support Group for Gay & Lesbian Seniors (50+):** Sponsored by Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders, 1853 Market, SF. FREE. 11 a.m.-12 noon. This is for those dealing with serious illness including cancer, stroke, HIV+, AIDS, ARC, heart trouble, etc. GLOE: 626-7000.

- **Ballroom Dancing for Gay & Lesbians:** Merengue. 50 Oak, 4th floor, at Van Ness. 7-8 p.m. beginners; 8-9 p.m. intermediate. \$7/class; \$12/both. 995-4962.

- **New Shanti Monthly Drop-in Group Begins:** For anyone wanting to talk about how AIDS impacts life today. Small rap groups 7-9:30 p.m., social time 9:30-10 p.m. Meets first Tuesdays of the month. 525 Howard/1st St. FREE. Carol Kleinmaier, 777-2273.

- **SF FrontRunners:** Meet at stretching area near Fort Mason parking lot at 6:45 p.m. across from Safeway. 5 mi. run. Everyone welcome. Call 453-4118.

## WEDNESDAY 13

- **A Family of Friends:** Portrait of a lesbian friendship group 1921-1973. A slide-lecture by Frances Doughty. 7:30 p.m. Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th St.
- **Estate Planning for Artists:** Sponsored by the California Lawyers for the Arts. 7-8:30 p.m. Fort Mason Center, Building B, Room 300. \$5 for CLA members, \$15 for non-members. For more info call 775-7200.
- **East Bay Gay Men's Sketch:** Wednesday evenings, 7-10 p.m. Located in the Jack London Square produce market just four blocks from Lake Merritt BART station. Reservations/info call 465-7382.
- **Federal Lesbians and Gays (FLAG):** Meets at Mart Bar & Grill, 22 9th St., 6 p.m. Guest speaker: Paul Greenbaum of Project Inform. No host bar, free snacks. Everyone welcome, especially public service employees. \$2. Call 695-9174.
- **Religious Science of San Francisco:** Real support for people dealing with life threatening illness. Support through the principles as set forth in the Science of Mind. Wednesdays at 7 p.m. 703 Capp St. (btwn 22 & 23 sts). Call 641-1702.
- **Electric City:** Lesbian/gay video. 8 p.m. on SF cable 35.
- **Gay & Lesbian Older Writers (50+):** Meets every Wednesday, 6-8 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Sponsored by Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders: 626-7000.
- **El Rio:** Comics Diane Amos, Ed Crasnick, Ngaio Bealum, Lisa Geduldig. 9-11 p.m. 3158 Mission.
- **Singer Faith Winthrop and Pianist Gus Gustavson:** Perform Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays at 8 p.m. Le Piano Zinc, 708 14th St. (Market & Church). 431-5266.
- **Young Lesbian Rap Group:** Support group for lesbians & bisexual women (22 and under) dealing with homophobia/heterosexism, racism, sexism, anti-semitism. Discuss street harassment, coming out, relationships/dating, health/safesex/AIDS, politics, careers, lesbian history! Women's Bldg. 3543 18th St. Every Wed., 7-9 p.m., for 8 weeks. Call 431-1180.
- **Shanti Cruise:** Ferry to Angel Island and spend the day. \$5.50. Meet at Pier 43 1/2. Depart at 9:30 a.m. For PWAs & guests. Call Joe Lane, 777-2273, for info.

## THURSDAY 14

- **El Rio:** Features Homewreckers, An R & B Affair. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. 3158 Mission.
- **'N' Touch Bar:** Feathers & Flesh Show, 10 p.m. 1548 Polk. Dancing, strippers, variety entertainment.
- **SF FrontRunners:** Meet at McLaren Lodge in GG Park at 6:30 p.m. Call 453-4118. Everyone welcome.
- **Ballroom & Latin Dancing for Gays & Lesbians:** Samba workshop. 7-8 p.m. Sept. 14, 21, 28. \$10/class, \$40/entire workshop. 50 Oak st., 4th floor at Van Ness. 995-4962.
- **Reading:** "Coffee Will Make You Black." April Sinclair reads from her novel in progress. 7:30 p.m. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia. \$3 donation. 282-9264.
- **Lambda Amateur Radio Club:** For gay and lesbian radio hams and friends. 8 p.m. Call 863-1196 for location and details.
- **Community United Against Violence:** Support Groups for Domestic Violence Battered Gay Males. Moving from Wednesdays to Thursdays. 514 Castro. Evenings. Free. Call 864-3112 for info.
- **Monthly AIDS Memorial Eucharist:** St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, San Pablo Avenue at 21st Street, Oakland. 5:30 p.m. All invited. Sponsored by Catholic Charities. Call 547-2707 for info.
- **ARC Drop-in Group for People with AIDS-Related Conditions:** Support, information, stress. Community Health Ctr. 1, Rm. 206 (3850 17th St. btwn Noe & Sanchez). 6-8 p.m. Call 626-7000 for details.
- **HIV+ Drop-in Group for Men & Women:** Testing Positive: Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. 6-8 p.m. Call 626-7000 for details.

# JAPANTOWN BOWL

## PETER PIN SEZ:



"Bowling is always FUN at Japantown Bowl"

That's the good news at Japantown Bowl. Eight gay and lesbian leagues for this fall!! Over 400 gay and lesbian bowlers in leagues ranging from vacation leagues of Gay Games III and Reno to good old-fashioned social leagues!!

We have serious bowlers and we have bowlers who want to mix with their friends... and who cares about the score? We have three bars to serve you and a snack shop with a menu ranging from burgers and fries to Japanese Udon noodle soup.

We have three hours FREE parking, too!!!

And, there's MORE good news! There's still room for you!

We still have openings in most of our leagues for this fall. You can be an experienced bowler or an inexperienced bowler. It doesn't matter. Just come out and have a good time. Make new friends. Have a ball.

Here is our fall schedule:

### Monday

**GAY GAMES III LEAGUE:** League starts on September 18 and will end with a one-week trip to Vancouver for Gay Games III on August 4-11. Everything is included in the weekly fee: bowling, trophies, airfare, hotel, etc. This will be a 90 handicap league with teams composed of 5 bowlers—all male, all female or mixed. Weekly cost is \$22.50. League will bowl 42 weeks with Vancouver trip as the GRAND FINALE. Mondays at 8:45 pm.

**MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE:** This will be a short league—14 weeks. This is a great league for someone who has never bowled in a league or someone who is unsure about long 25-30 week winter league commitment. It starts on September 18. The cost is \$8.50 per person per week. Teams consist of 5 players with an 80 handicap. Mondays at 8:45 pm.

### Tuesday

**TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE:** This is the largest league at Japantown Bowl (it was 20 leagues last year). If you want to meet new people, this league is for you. It starts on September 26—5 to a team—90 handicap—\$9.00 per week—Tuesdays at 8:45 pm.

### Wednesday

**WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE:** The Wednesday league is, perhaps, our most competitive league: Five players to a team, it has an 80 handicap and a \$9.00 per week fee. It begins on September 20. Wednesdays at 8:45 pm.

### Thursday

**THURSDAY AFTERNOON COMMUNITY LEAGUE:** This league is perfect for the second or third shift worker—it starts at 1:00 pm and bartenders have been happy bowlers for years. 3 bowlers to a team. 90 handicap. \$6.50 per week. It starts on September 21.

### Friday

**FRIDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE:** A great league for the individual who wants a non-competitive, social-oriented situation. It's also a great way to start off the weekend. 100 handicap. Friday at 6:15. \$8.50 per week. Starts September 8. 3 on a team.

### Saturday

**GAY GAMES III LEAGUE:** This is the same kind of league as the Monday Gay Games III league, except that you need only 4 bowlers to a team. Perfect for the person who works second shift during the week who wants to go to Vancouver. All details same as Monday League. \$22.50 per week. Starts September 16. Saturdays at 6:15 pm.

### Sunday

**SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE:** One of our most popular leagues. You pay \$11.50 per bowler per week with most of that going toward a weekend trip to Reno at the end of the season. 4 bowlers to a team. 90 handicap. It starts on October 29. Sundays at 6:00 pm.

For more information, call  
**WILL SNYDER at 921-6200**



# This Summer Sizzler Fizzles

**Under Heat**

by Michael David Brown; New American Library; \$17.95.

by Ron Larsen

Despite its sweltering setting, its steamy subject matter, and its hot-to-trot gay protagonist/narrator, Michael David Brown's tepid debut novel, *Under Heat*, left this reader cold. Borrowing from Sam Shepard and such literary giants as William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams and Arthur Miller, Brown serves us a talky, tedious, angst-ridden story so dreary and depressing it'll make you want to slit your throat long before you've turned the last page.

Aside from Brown's laborious writing style and his penchant for stringing together one interminable monologue after another, *Heat* suffers primarily from a pointless plot populated by a host of obnoxious, overbearing, overwrought characters. There's no one to care about, much less pull for, in this extended wallow in "hillbilly trash"—certainly not the smug, self-righteous narrator, Dean, a gay

man and recovering alcoholic from "Cocksuck, Louisiana" (i.e., New Orleans), and certainly not his drunken bum of a strung-out brother, Milo, a thrice-married loser and wet-brained philosopher who's mired in one of his "ugly periods" as the story begins.

That leaves the boys' whiskey-swilling, long-suffering mother, Jane, at her wits end as she contemplates the probable suicide of her long-dead husband, the sorry state of her sons' affairs, and her own imminent demise, either through cancer or by her own hand. Dysfunctional to the nth degree, this messed-up family is in deep, deep shit.

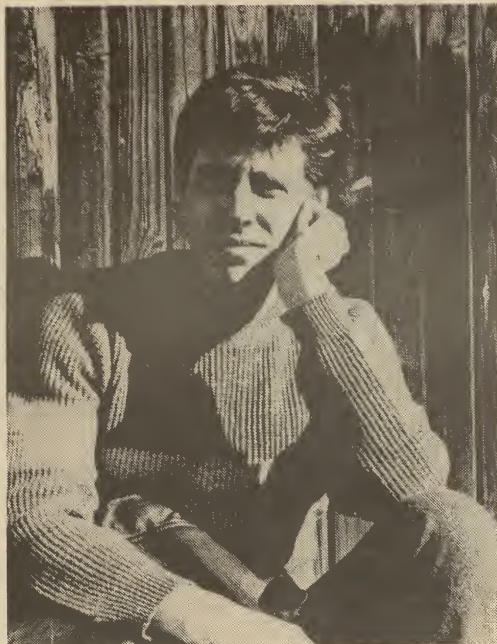
Dean makes the trek home to Ambrose, a dirt-poor town nestled in the Appalachian hills, at Jane's request. The old lady is going off the deep end herself, and she needs Dean's help in dealing with Milo, a compulsive gambler as well as a chronic alcoholic and

an alleged wife-beater in trouble with the law.

Although Dean is "close to shame for the hillbilly trash [he has] to be intimate with," blood ties compel him to extend a helping hand to his renegade brother.

But instead of taking the bull by the horns, the wishy-washy protagonist becomes his brother's unwitting accomplice in an outlandish get-rich-quick scheme involving a huge quantity of cocaine, a "sure bet" on a thoroughbred horse race, a stud farm, arson, an ex-wife twice removed, and a homophobic crimelord named Quayle with his sleazy gang of "sorry fat-faced redneck fucking mongoloid hillbilly" thugs.

More torpid than torrid, *Heat's* gay sex scenes (all two of 'em) peter out long before the participants reach climax, generating little in the way of sexual tension or titillation.



Author Michael David Brown.

Dean has sworn off booze, having found Gay AA in New Orleans, but not even the specter of AIDS has dulled his appetite for sex. So he becomes understandably hot and bothered when he first spies Simon, a sinewy teen-aged stud wearing next to nothing, "all features italicized in sweat."

As rendered by Brown, their inevitable roll in the hay is an anticlimactic interlude that adds nothing to the annals of gay erotica. A brief excerpt, peppered with exclamation points, follows:

"Come on my face," I tell him.  
"What?!"

Simon's narrow hips, white where there isn't any tan, the abundant cadence—in-out-in—do it! Of course! Yes! Not being swallowed up by each other we'll check the spread of anything unwholesome, even deadly. Long as we don't ingest. "Come on my face. Do it!"

"Okay." Simon rears back where I can examine him and get ready.

What's this? He heaves forward lapping it not too gently alongside my face. Both sides!

The hips. The incredible bottom brushing over my chest...

That did it! That last thing took me over the line into climaxing all over Simon's back. I thought there'd be no stopping.

Get the point? While the horny Dean spends much of his time in heat, his macho-man brother, Milo, is simply hot under the collar—and full of hot air. Although he is not above chiding Dean for being "queer as a football bat," Milo is clearly the black sheep of the family, and he takes great delight in rattling all the skeletons in the family's closet. Amid a litany of regrets and recriminations—and much talk about mendacity, duplicity and the evils of drink—Milo ruminates endlessly on the wasted life and mysterious death of his father, a drunken philosopher who may or may not have committed suicide when Milo and Dean were younguns.

While Milo argues that the old man took his own life, Dean and Jane are both in denial, so that many bitter squabbles erupt. But, after pages and pages of these wretched rantings and

dreary proceedings, who the hell cares?

When the ill-fated Milo expires of sunstroke after a grisly duel in the sun, following his hapless father to the grave, it's easy to believe that he is indeed "better off" and "where he belongs," as the local preacher (a closeted gay) puts it.

Responding to the preacher's philosophical pabulum about escaping a life of tragedy and pain, Dean quips to himself that it "almost makes you want to run out and catch the old dark-eyed Angel by the sleeve, so if he wouldn't bargain for a closer expiration date."

In the end, *Under Heat* is a would-be sizzler that fizzles out completely, leaving the chilled-out reader to ponder the existential meaning(lessness) of it all. Michael David Brown likes to use lots of fancy words and convoluted sentences, but he's not much of a storyteller, and his turgid, dialogue-laden book reads more like a four-act play than a four-part novel.

If nothing else, though, the fledgling writer makes one appreciate the abundant talents of Faulkner, Williams, et al. all the more, mainly because he does such a poor job of imitating them in a book that combines elements of *The Long, Hot Summer*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *Death of a Salesman*, to name but a few.

But why settle for a pale imitation when you can go straight to the sources and read the real thing? Why, indeed. ▼

## Beer Bust to Fund Poetry Memorial

The Bear on Castro Street will host a beer bust fundraiser to benefit the Living Word Memorial Anthology on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

The beer bust, which will feature the Bear's selection of beers, sodas and juices, will cost \$6.

The Living Word Memorial Anthology will be a collection of poetry written by poets who have died of AIDS. Initially, the work will be published in periodical form. A book is planned in the future. ▼

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## BOOKS

# Murder, Sex, Nouvelle Cuisine

**SKID: Violet Childes Murder Mystery**  
by Maud Farrell, E.P. Dutton, 1989, \$16.95

by Noreen C. Barnes

"Lesbians have a different language. Women together make a different sound. And I think it's music. A sonata perhaps. No, an intermezzo, an exultant phrase of notes lifted out of the male context, which is the world's context... women together don't intensify the female. It's not just a doubling up of the familiar, it's an expansion. Definitions are dropped, roles are optional, women together can be anything they want to each other. They widen the spectrum instead of narrowing it.... Women together are two stones rubbing up against each other. They polish each other, they transform each other."

These words lie somewhere near the heart of *Skid*—amidst a taut, finely crafted mystery tale that smacks of a unique cross between the plotting of Sara Paretsky's detective series and the East Side edged language of Sarah Schulman's *After Delores*.

Violet Childes, photographer, chef and bi-sexual clothes horse, is on the trail of her beloved father's murderer. She unravels a web of intrigue that stretches far beyond her imagining, as she finds the past colliding with the present, and transforming the

future. The story unfolds gradually, then accelerates into a series of climaxes that slam into each other like a multi-vehicle pile-up on the freeway.

Violet moves from the bed of her current lover, Paul, to those of the past—former drug addict Cindy, who "had a tendency to speak like an unpublished poet," and dancer-turned-lawyer Romaine, a "classic African beauty" with "flashing-dark seismographic eyes."

Other players in this high-wire act of a story range from the array of women who frequent Anita's nightclub, to political artist Zar, a police detective, a shopaholic friend, and a wealthy suburban housewife for whom "the Valium doesn't work anymore."

Through her characters—and her post-feminist femme, Violet—Farrell comments on the spectrum of ironies that comprise late '80s urban life. The act of reading "was an anomaly that suggested the subversive; in the face of the latter half of the 20th century's visual blitzkrieg, it was an act approaching the meditative. Even if it was the *New York Post*."

On the practice of selling defective products to Third

World nations: "This is the sperm of capitalism, how the free world's profit margin is kept intact, ketchup is a vegetable, unnecessary hysterectomies buy BMWs, the men running this show have their brains below their belts..." A friend witnesses a news story on Nicaragua: "... a soldier kicks at a dead woman's arm while Mr. Potato Head recites a defensive line about American caution—all on live TV, a thick dead space of silence where rage should be, where tears should be."

Anger and irony turn to poetry when Farrell's language paints the images of two women making love: "Tongues danced on pink velvet; trembling sheaths of silk skin traveled, speeding up to the apex where they hung, suspended in dazzle, in a jagged diamond spasm, then fell together, one mercurial dolphin, collapsing in a near faint."

Amidst the sex, art galleries, great clothes, French cigarettes and pasta recipes, is danger, murder and an impulsive visit to a mental hospital—from the patient's perspective. Finding her father's killer becomes an obsession for Violet, as the threat to her own life spirals in around her, and she finds she is the target of an



unknown and terrifying force.

The jacket cover notes that the author—who, like her protagonist, is a photographer and chef—"has no legitimate children, hobbies or graduate

degrees." Farrell is currently writing *The Big Overcoat*, a sequel to *Skid*. Another recipe for murder? A mouth-watering idea, in more ways than one. ▼

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Rim-seat pro w/trained tongue wants to service big, beefy, butch butts, esp. construction/Italian type. Stan—Dwntn/NbH/SF 776-0738. E36

#### HUNGER KNOWS NO SEASON

Food, including left-overs, blankets, sleeping bags and coats needed for gay homeless. Give discards to Community Thrift Store for our account# 206. Call 861-4910 for pick up. Volunteer operated, food is donated but we need money for rent. Please help. Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom, SF 94103 863-4882.

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Int'l Newsletter, \$20-yr. SASE stating over 21 to 2261 Market #203 San Francisco 94114. Free ad. 2000 mem. E38

#### DAWN OF AQUARIUS SELLS OUT

Bleach Blond Bad Boy androgenic camp starlet seeks attractive witty intelligent promo/investor for fun business ventures 863-7628 D.O.A. E36

Sacramento—Allen met at the Merc last year later Hyatt Regency. Would like to see you again, need phone number. Please place ad with a number — Tom. E38

Big Suck Party Fri-Sat  
Dick's Meating 863-8672 E36

GWTV SEEKS GB YOUTH  
Older closet tv, publicly not known to be Gay seeks young Black who is slim, small, smooth, top, clean, honest, discreet. I have cute, smooth, fair buns & thighs I like pampered, as I will pamper you. Rent free home for right one. Please—no hung hairy hunks. Please send revealing letter & photo to Box 2315, 1390 Market, SF 94102. E36

### People

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Trust FF Network. For info: ASP, POB 14543, SF 94114. E37

Young men, 18-24, good head by goodlooking, well-built man, 50, HIV-neg. serious only, 826-6858 E36

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Info & Schedule: 552-7339

Free massage: You Asian, Latin under 25. Lu 979-4555. E36

Bondage Buddies — Wed 9/13  
Social/Info Meeting —Topic: Auto-Erotic Bondage 621-6294 E36

#### ALEX AND KILLER

XXX Hot Muscular Hung GWM 29yrs. wants to meet. pls. write: PO Box 40725 SF CA 94140-0725. Won't be sorry. E36

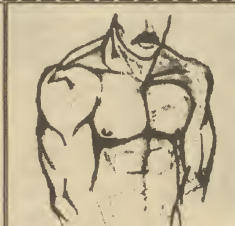
Daddy will train  
trim lad to obey, bondage, discipline. Tom 282-5439. E40

Butch, non-Caucasian guy wanted for sex and more by gdlk wm 46. Ralph 821-6388. E38

Travel companion wanted to share expenses for trip to Italy Sep. 29-Oct. 29. Elliot 863-3488. E36



#### WOMEN



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## People

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Jeff, if you're out there please call and leave a correct phone no. Tommy 864-4652. E36

Squat down and let daddy sniff your dirty hole. Piss too? GWM 47 wants asshole & jo fun. Looks not important, but horniness is. Send hot note & ph # to Box 151, Alameda 94501. All answered. E36

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Asian Companion to travel. Open to time & place help/exp. romance poss. 346-8950. E36

Good head no j/o 285-8390 E40

Sex Events Tape. Free Info on Orgies, BJ, J/O Parties, Glory Holes. 431-8748. E37

Glory Hole Hotline, 621-1887. E52

**NEW & IMPROVED!**

(415) **976-LADS**

**MESSAGE NETWORK**

- The intelligent way to meet new buddies.
- 24 hour service.
- New messages each time you call.
- Leave your message. \$2 call + toll

**GAY TELEPHONE BULLETIN BOARD**

**Instantly Updated**

**Leave Adult Messages**

**See If There's One For You**

(415) **976-6677**  
(213) **976-6677**  
\$2.00 + toll if any

**SHAVED**  
Finally my fantasy to be tied down and my pubic hair shaved has been fulfilled. Now looking for guys into playing with a shaved guy—from vanilla to kinky, or possibly wishing to be shaved. I am 6', 160, mid 40's. Into daddy/son or daddy/daddy games. Mike 821-9721 E36

German-Mexican American White Male 27 seeks well-hung, handsome man, hung XX thick and over 9", muscular and macho for fun and relationship in Sacto. Kurt (916) 487-5721 for Luv glory hole, too, for over 9". E36

**VALLEJO GUYS**  
Gdlkg WM 40 needs guys to sit on my face, receive unreal oral service. Any age, decent body. (707) 553-8260 E36

**LOTS OF BIG HARD COCKS**  
Phallic worship service followed by Gay video festival. Mandatory clothes check. Thurs. Fri & Sat. Free admission 7:30 to 8 pm. 55-8 pm to 1 am. 1080 Folsom. 863-4882.

**HYPNOSIS IS IT FOR YOU???**  
You can Lose Weight • Relax Stop Smoking Now • Manage Stress Overcome Fears • Study/Exams Memory • Concentration • Sleep Improve your Gym Workout Change Unwanted Habits Improve Health Alex 863-5654

**SCULPTURE**  
BODY HAIR SHAPED TO YOUR BODY LINES. BRING OUT YOUR PERSONAL BEST. SHAPE UP WITH AN ATTRACTIVE TRIM. FOR THE AVERAGE MAN TO THE BODYBUILDER. \$10 to \$30

**CROTCH WORKS**  
UNDRESS TO A MORE INVITING VIEW. PUBIC HAIR TRIM & BALL SHAVE \$10 BUTT HYGIENE SHAVE \$5

A Professional Service By Appointment  
Mon-Sat 1 p.m.-8 p.m.  
**TOM 285-4196**

## Massage



**BLOND CANADIAN**  
Even if you're a little shy  
*One-of-a-kind-Man*  
When you need a friendly hand, a warm, sensual experience & a fun man, 6', 195, nude, erotic Swedish hot lotion rub. Experienced  
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

**EXPERIENCE**  
for yourself an erotic full-body massage by a very handsome bodybuilder. Go ahead... indulge... \$40 in/\$50 out.  
**Daniel, 864-0788**

Italian Masseur 861-0294 E40

**BANGKOK?**  
Massage by a Hot Thai Boy. Student discounts. \$45 in; \$55 out. Ramli 821-1674 E37

Full Body Sensual Massage on table by nude bearded hunk. \$40, Jim 864-2653 E41

Marin-SF, Hot BB Massage 50/70. 10 am-10 pm, Ken 459-4217 E41

Best sensual massage in SF. Hot oil. Trained hands. Castro E-Z park. In. Larry 621-8560. E39

## Massage

**Buddy**  
**541-5607**

Short Stop to Release. Get int. Massage by 3 Young, Goodlookg Asians. Call Lon or Nam or Mike, 788-0380. E39

Fullbody massage by nude Bodybuilder, 36, 5'5", 42" c, 16" a, older men welcome. fine body. \$40 in/out. Don 441-2584 E39

**R. RIVER SPECIAL**  
Sensual Massage at its best/Video Fun Tues thru Fri only. Mark (707) 578-0214 E38

Brian, 24yrs. 995-4607. E37

**SERIOUSLY SENSUOUS**  
Massage. Barefoot technique relaxes as it increases sensitivity. Special rate for buddies. John 255-2747. E37

Get the massage you really need. Point work, deep tissue, subtle balancing with Swedish long strokes by handsome CMT. Sensual, not sexual. 75 min \$35/\$45 in/out. Jim 752-8846. E37

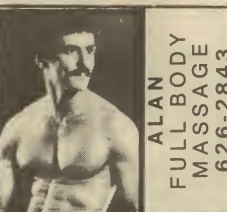
San Jose—Swedish massage \$25/hr.-in. (Shower avail.) \$35/1 1/2 hrs. certified. Anthony (408) 288-6169. E37

**ASIAN FANTASY**  
He's young, gorgeous, well-built, smooth, and tan. He's ready to massage you. Tom. 298-6255. Out only. E37

**PLEASURE**  
Hot Hung Aggressive BB will give you hot body massage with an extra hot touch. In/out. JEFF 923-9902 E36

**YOU'LL FLOAT**  
hndsm, cert. masseur 647-2112 E36

**ALAN**  
**FULL BODY MASSAGE**  
**626-2843**



**Experiencing "Corporate Burnout"?**

Relax...Relax...Relax during this 90 min. "Hot Oil" massage combining Shiatsu & Acupressure techniques  
\$45 in/\$75 Out  
9 a.m.-11 p.m.  
John Polozzo, CMT/Rebirther  
255-6263

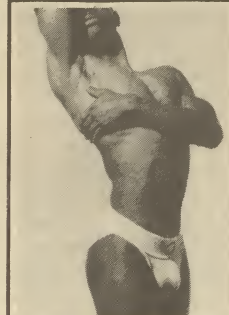
**SENSUAL MASSAGE**  
Relax... Relax... Relax... I have the touch and love giving massage... a professional massage using oil, on a table, in a warm, quiet studio; certified \$28 for 75 minutes. \$40 for 2 hours. Bruce 861-2925. (near the Castro) Certified.



**MASSAGE**  
**ROBERT (CMT) 626-0667**

## Massage

**MEL GIBSON**  
type 26 yr. old; masculine, muscular offers  
Swedish massage.  
\$45 • 567-4257  
Francais parlé  
Deutsche Gesprochen



For a sensual massage • in/out  
Call Dick 255-0730

**XXX HOT, ENERGY**  
I can do what a man does best.  
Strong, handsome face.  
Blond bisexual muscle  
6'1", 205 lbs.  
**Big meat, passionate eyes**  
Intelligent and friendly.  
Seeing is believing.  
**Sensual, erotic massage.**  
I know you knead it.  
\$50/\$70 24 hrs. Greg  
441-4874

Total body, hot oil, in 621-8560 E39

East Bay Total Body Massage. \$30/in, \$40/out. Paul 782-5340 E36

**So. Lake Tahoe**  
Handsome, Athletic  
Jim — Masseur  
(702) 588-5559

**BLISSFUL MASSAGE**



**VAN • 864-1362**

**TOM ADVENTURESOME**  
Built tight, muscular & hung.  
Blond man, 32, 6', 190 lbs.  
Very friendly guys  
over 30 preferred.  
Sensual massage in the buff.  
\$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.  
**567-4572**

Hot nude massage by caring 30 year old male. call 931-2395 9am to 9pm for complete sensual massage by Anthony E37

**EAST BAY ASIAN**  
With Gentle Healing Touch.  
\$40/\$50. Bill 763-7315. E38

**SWEDISH MASSAGE**  
Super relaxing bodywork  
certified and private  
Dan 552-4009 E38

**REFRESH YOURSELF!**  
**RELAX • REVITALIZE**  
Escape to the comfort and care of a handsome athletic man. Warm and soothing, superbly sensual massage. reasonable rates.  
Nick Certified 626-6210

**A TOUCH OF CLASS**  
**A RELAXING MASSAGE**  
by a handsome, masculine blond, 6', 190, beautifully nude muscular body, summer tan. Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage  
Massage Lotion & Table. Hard to Beat It  
\$45 In/\$60 Out 75 mins.  
Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

**SPORTS MASSAGE**  
JEFF GIBSON  
626-7095 \$40

Excellent massage by swimmer/runner/cyclist. For aches and pains, injuries, or just to relax! These experienced hands have worked with athletes at the Calgory Olympics and Boston Marathon. Certified. Member AMTA.

**High Strength Massage-Plus**  
treat yourself in the afternoon.  
\$40 in the Castro.  
Phillip  
864-5566 Hot, Built, Expert!

Pleasure times two!  
Peter and Tony 864-5483 E36

**BODY BEAUTIFUL**  
Cute, butch guy, tanned swimmer, gives an ultra-hot massage nude, deep tissue and muscle work done, 5'8", br/blue, hairy pecs, muscular build. \$45/in, \$55/out. Joe 658-0247. Can travel to most Bay Area. E38

East Bay Massage—Deep and Sensual—Swedish. In only. Alan 782-7809 \$30. E36

**SHIATSU CERTIFIED**  
\$30/Rick  
752-0467  
10 a.m.-10 p.m. out only E36

Late night massage 621-8560 E39


Deep tissue, Swdsh full-body erotic massage by yng. blnd BB trainer. Jeff \$40 in/out, 550-6833, cert. E38

**HEAD TO FEET**  
Sensual Massage 558-9508  
Ron 24 hr. E40

Hot Oil Massage by Bodybuilder Gino 861-0294 E40

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
Extraordinary full-body massage in comfortable Castro studio by sensitive, goodlooking 28-year-old.  
**DAVID, 648-1413**  
Serious/Experienced/Personable  
Reasonable Rates/In Only

**MASSAGE**



**IAN—621-0420 \$60**  
Callback Required

Sensual Bondage  
Safe — No Fr/Gr/FF!

# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

## Massage

### PHYSICAL ATTRACTION

V-handsome Scandinavian man, weight lifter, friendly, 8' cut, blond/blue, 6', 185. Especially like small Asian & Latin men. Erotic nude massage.

45 in 55 out **931-3263** Ron 24 hrs

**BODY ELECTRIC GRAD**  
\$25 Introductory Offer  
Bart 923-1131. PWAs welcome. E36

### A COMPLETE BODY

Massage by 2 Hot College Students. Day time special. Summer's almost over. For a great time call 864-8414. E36

Tall, blond X-handsome, BB, 6'2", very defined. Certified, professional, sensual, 8 yrs experience. 9 am-11 pm, Bill 626-6210 E36

Some Enchanted Evening. . . Angelic Massage from a devilishly handsome masseur! Jeremy 861-1362. in/out E36

### CUTE & ROMANTIC TEDDY BEAR

Hdsm & Masculine Latino Guy, 26, Smooth Swimmer's Build, 5'7", 140lbs, delicious buns, passionate & versatile. Let my hands relax & please you.

**CARLOS 465-0231**  
\$45 in \$60 out 24 hrs.

### PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE

Certified in both Swedish-Esalen and Acupressure. I'm an Instructor at a S.F. massage school and a masseur in a medical clinic. 90 min.: \$40 in / \$50 out. Nonsexual. Be touched! John, 626-1569

### IT'S NICE TO BE KNEADED

by an exceptionally good-looking blond gymnast. in/out. 550-6833 \$40.

### ★ CHRIS STRYKER ★

Yng., masc., musc., intel. Jeff Stryker type. Certified, sensitive, sophisticated. \$45. Convenient location & parking.

**567-4257**

### JUAN-CARLOS

Regular Swedish/Shiatsu Massage Private Potrero Hill Studio

Discounts for Morning Appts. Repeats, and PWAs

State Certified

285-9318 • pgr. #896-8550

### TOTAL TOUCH MASSAGE!

I offer Practical, Emotional, and Spiritual Support. 1 hr-20, 1 1/2 hrs-30, 2 hrs-40 call David Jay at

**621-8142**

### Nurturing

• Swedish  
• Acupressure  
• Rebirthing  
Christopher 255-5964

### RELAX!

Sensual Swedish/Shiatsu Massage You deserve a loving massage Peter 864-5483

## Massage

### 5' 9", 170#, 43c, 30w, Italian HUNG 8 UNCUT



Massage or Company **626-8391**

Masterful Massage by Versatile E. Bay CMT with strong and sensual touch. \$35/75 min. Greg 547-1364. E36

IF YOU ARE A BEARDED MAN this ad applies to you only. I am a handsome, friendly, dark, in-shape Portuguese man with big hands. I will give you the best possible sensual, deep muscle, yet relaxing, erotic massage. Our session together will be comfortable and fun. Get naked, man to man, with an experienced, certified, hairy man. Call Tony at (707) 257-1829 days/eves until 9 p.m. only please. In/out calls. E36

**MUSCULAR HEALTHY**  
Italian man uses various techniques to offer total relaxation. Michael 665-5877 E36

### HUSKY GUY

College student gives sensual massage to men 18 to 60. Call **Steve, 864-6155** evenings and weekends

### VISIT HEAVEN!



For an Ultimate Sensual Massage Experience Call Mike & Jeff 641-0780

Sighs & Whispers. . . Alex, 861-1362. Anytime. E36

### EXCELLENCE

is what I strive to achieve in life, and my complete, full-body, erotic massage is no exception! I'm a well-built, very handsome blond BB. \$40 in/out. Kevin, 864-1190 E36

### PROSTATE MASSAGE

With colonic irrigation or full body Swedish massage. Jon 681-4828 E36

Asian American Masseuse Certified, \$40/\$50. 285-9019 E36

### REAL HOT MAN

5'11", 170#, black hair, blue eyes, goodlooking BB, massage. Call Jim, 558-9688. • Certified •



HIRE THE BOY NEXTDOOR: DAVE OF SILICON VALLEY  
Sensual & wild-chest massage experience with DAVE. He's 31, 5'11", 180 lbs, 42C chest, 34" waist, short brown hair, blue eyes, surprisingly built hairy chest and muscular legs. (Reservation recommended, subject to DAVE's Calendar.)  
Massage rate: \$50 per hour session; \$10 each additional half hour or \$35 a half hour. (Couple's get single rate, session together or separate.)  
Or interest to Corporate Executives: DAVE also has junior executive talent (\$25/hr), he performs occasional personal masseur/therapist work (\$25/hr negotiable, 4hrs-min). Liberal arts/computer/analyst background for computer analyst consulting or junior executive position. (Discreet Caltech to your residence or business prior to providing negotiable rates & other details.)  
Masseur/Valet DAVE (408) 741-5376 Single rate for couples

### CLOUD 9



Coming from the heart

Massage by attractive, friendly man \$25/in Dennis (415) 255-2839

Big, Beautiful, Built Bodybuilder. Best Bodyworker Beyond Belief. Brad 861-1805 E36

771-8042 Zolt. days \$40 fun LEATHER MASSAGE E36

### BODYWORKER/BB

Fantastic, Erotic Fullbody Massage that truly satisfies. A strong, handsome & hunky man who will give you the kind of muscle massage you need. Available days and late eves. Clean, private and discreet. Robert 567-6015. E36

### HOT HANDS/VIDEO MARK 648-6081

Hot Blond Stripper/Swimmer Nick \$50 kinky 255-6433 E36

Deep Fullbody Massage by Clean-cut & Friendly Yng Student. Matt 564-6478. E36

### ★ MASTER ★ MASSEUR

Specializing in: Sensual Arousing, Euphoric Technique blended with Cert. Mass. by Masc. Musc. Healthy Hdsm Hung. Andy 24hr. 826-5452. E37

Full Body Nude Erotic MARIN MASSAGE Very Friendly & Discreet Beeper 485-8376. after 3 beeps punch in your tele. # E36

Complete mass. by handsome guy. Dwntrwn SF 398-2441 Mark 24hr. E40

### MICHAEL QUINTAL

\$40 for 75 minutes 587-9316

Certified in Shiatsu therapy. Shiatsu is a Japanese acupressure massage providing reflexology, facial massage and balancing.

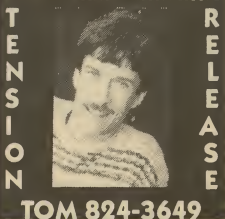
### EXECUTIVE MASSAGE

Swedish-Esalen-Sensual-Erotic in a private comfortable garden setting. By a big personable discreet man. Evenings and some weekends. In calls only. Table and hot oils. Call Sam 282-9410 or please leave message.

### TRIP TO ECSTASY!

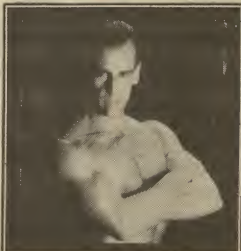
Full body massage—buns & legs my specialty! Hot man, 6', 160lbs br/br must. Call Russ anytime in/out 647-0944. \$40/\$50 cash—add \$5 for MC/VISA. Try me!

### Energetic Style SWEDISH MASSAGE • ACUPRESSURE



**TOM 824-3649**

## Massage



**Sophisticated Physical Energy  
SENSUAL MASSAGE**  
By Appt. Max 861-7020

Jose 27 Gdlk CMT 285-4875 E36

Hot, Sensuous, Relaxing Massage. 552-2748 Vidal E36

\$25 Special Introductory Ted, CMT, 255-0421, 11-11pm E36

**NUDE HOT HANDSOME**  
Full Body Satisfaction. David \$40. 550-8616. E36

### SAN JOSE HUNK

6'1", 190, sexy, masc, gorgeous, hot bod. (408) 559-7524 E36

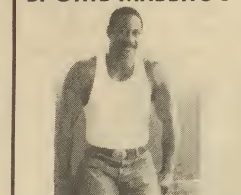
Full Relaxing, Sensual, Erotic Massage by a Hot-Looking Guy. call 775-4771, 24 hours. E37

Mantool Massage 626-8665 E37



**MASSAGE BY MICHAEL  
NON-SEXUAL • 673-7485**

### SPORTS MASSAGE



A superb massage from a gifted and caring masseur will leave your body feeling light, open, relaxed and yet re-energized. Therapeutic, sensual but non-sexual massage from a man who loves the male body, and is highly trained and experienced. When you care enough to get the very best.

\$50 1 1/2 hrs/in \$65 1 1/2 hrs/out  
**Veet Sandeha 621-3637**

## Models & Escorts

### ATHLETE

5'11" 200LBS SOLID HANDSOME MASCULINE CLEAN-CUT 27YO NOT LIKE THE REST **MIKE 621-4082** E36

Goodlooking 21, 5'10", 160. Smooth swimmer's body. Friendly, personable. Out only. \$80 Kurt 773-8784. E37

### VERY DARK

Muscular Black Top trains submissives to enjoy and accept their need to be punished by macho black men. I will teach you your real limits. Grow and submit. **\$100 James 534-0982**

## Models & Escorts

If you would like to give **Fr. Attention** to a handsome, masculine, well-built & well hung man, please call **Buddy 541-5607**. Friendly & affordable.



**RAY**  
Evenings, Weekends out only • 648-0902

### SERIOUS MUSCLE

Comp. BB new in town, 26 yrs. 5'10", 210 lbs., 19"A, 49"C 31"W, 18"C, catalonian complexion. Hung \$80/in \$100/out Vince 788-2467

Muscles, Tattoos, Cigars, Attention, Straight Dude kicks back for hd, into men & women. \$100. Mike 861-7379 E36

—Midwest Farmboy—  
Hot 27 yo. 5'10", 160, w/8" thick for your pleasure. 24 hrs. out only, 995-4950

—A Studfinder Man— E36

Boyish Swimmer Masculine & Meaty. Cute & Cuddly, 23. Eves. Patrick 863-9538 E36

Rockhard Muscular Blond, 5'8", 170, solid muscle, 45"C, 28"W, 16"A. X-Marine, rugged, handsome, tattooed & really hung. \$60. Nick 861-7379 E36

Head my way! \$30 in/out. B.J.'s the best! 864-5483. E36

### MUSCLE HUNK

Masc. guy lays back, 664-7156, 24hr, thick. E36

Evan wants you for fun! 26, tall, blond BB safe. 654-4973. E38

### VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN

Hot, gdlk, rockhard muscles & athl legs. Vers, healthy, yng, hung, tall Marine type. Anytime. No BS. Dan 753-8604

### WORSHIP

the boy next door 9" EXTRA THICK CUT! FRENCH PASSIVE Hot, boyish, clean-shaven, good looks, 6'1", 160lbs., 26 yrs., green eyes, brown hair. **MIKE 664-2057**

(If out, follow answering machine instructions to page for fast callback.)

\$100 • out only

### BOY

Share your Fantasies: Dark hair & eyes. 21 yrs., 6'3", 160#. smooth body, very cute boyish looks, thick 9-incher... My place or yours. speaks German/French. \$100 in/out. Call: (415) 626-7707 anytime.

# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

## Models & Escorts

### Bisexual Jock



Photo by Ram 553-8172

**Skip 881-8919**

### COCKY BOY DIGS WORSHIP

25 y.o. punk likes his 7" idol worshipped. Cocky, verbal, dominant—A rebel with a cause.

**TONY 864-3133**

### TOO BIG FOR MOST

Pager #739-7527

### Bondage Fantasies into Hard Reality



- Complete bondage room to fulfill your fantasies.
- Hoods • Suspension • Restraints
- Leather Bondage Body Bag
- Guided by a tall handsome Leathered BondageMaster.

Call Joseph  
**(415) 431-2668**  
AIDS aware and absolutely safe  
(No fluid exchange)

Attrac. masc. blond hunk. Men 35+ w'come. Ron 863-3270. E37

Young, Trim, Smooth Top. Steven 541-5658, Dominates Executives, Married Men. E37

Top Dane. Tall, blond, well-def. and -hung. \$100/out. anytime mid-night-noon. Erik 928-7206. E37

### SWIMMER



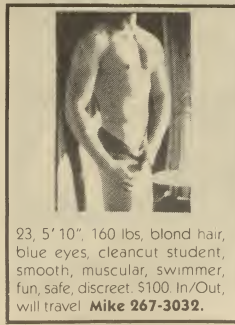
**SCOTT • \$100**  
**(415) 825-2433**

### CHECK ME OUT

See to believe. 25 y/o rugged XXX-Handsome, XXX-Hung, XXX-ripped, lean, hard muscular god-body, tattoos. No BS. Serious stud pleasure seeker. I f-king dig attention. \$120.

**RICK, 626-6839.**

## Models & Escorts



23, 5'10", 160 lbs, blond hair, blue eyes, cleancut student, smooth, muscular, swimmer, fun, safe, discreet. \$100 In/Out, will travel. **Mike 267-3032.**

### NEW IN TOWN

#### TITLEHOLDER BODYBUILDER

26yrs, 250#, 56" ch., 33" w. calves & arms 20", x-hung, x-handsome

**Beeper 764-9244 Dirk**

Hairy bearded man for hire 37 6'2" 185 well hung Steve 431-5974 in or out. E36

Sexy blond jock with washboard abs & incredible pecs. 24yrs, 5'9" 155#, 8" c, tanned, masculine & very handsome. \$80in/\$100out. Brandon 864-0788 E36

Exotic Mulatto light skinned, hot-looking and sexy. Call: 775-4771, 24 hrs. E36

### Need Spanking?

Tall, Slender, yng man will gladly provide. Out only. Lance 995-4793. E36

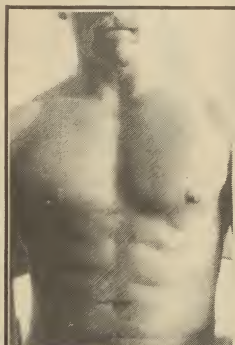
Bl hair, blue eyes, 5'10", 145, 20, Andrew \$100 out. 928-6171. E36

8 1/2 x 6 1/4 of manhood needs "sir" vice \$50. Hank 861-7379. E36

### ★ SAN JOSE ★

Massage Swedish, Shiatsu & Botom. Jimmy (408) 358-3036. E37

The butt-buster "Butch" the best & biggest big shot. Quality & quantity top. 864-0538. E36



**282-4662 • In/Out**

### MUSCULAR IRISHMAN LIKES TO LEAN BACK THICK CUT 8"

32, 5'10", 190#, Br/Br  
**DAN • 861-7931**  
Anytime

### HUNG STUD

Thick and Big

**GUS (415)469-7221**

TLC Massage by Luis, 27, gdlk. after 9 pm. \$65. 285-4875. E36

Straight dude into videos and hd., big thick 8 1/2" plunger, hairy, muscular, hung & serious. \$60 Mitch 864-0230 E36

### THE STALLION

**Bpr # 337-3985**

## Models & Escorts

### • WOLF •

**753-6539**



Masculine • Blond • Hung

**Fryan Stud, 24 Yrs.**

**\$100 IN • \$140 OUT**

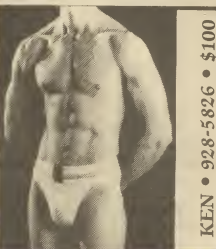
### YEAH!

#### SIX FOOT SOLOFLEX

STRONG, SOLID & SEXY GREAT LOOKS/CLEANCUT HONEST THICK NINE

**\$100/863-7399**

Massage Included



KEN • 928-5826 • \$100

### DOMINANT SON FOR MEN 40 +

27, 5'9", #145, hung big, into all fantasies  
**JIM 441-3131**  
Outcalls \$75

### HOT BLACK JOCK

XXThick XXHung 25yo. 5'10", 175#, clean cut & sexy. Frank 995-2368. \$75 out. E36

Expert professional leads you to new insights.... By appointment, 861-7020 Max E36

### TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT

I'm a hot young man—5'8 1/2", 150lbs. It brn/hzl—with nice pecs and warm playful buns. Open to fantasies, massage and more. I'm safe, discreet and extremely friendly. 621-8381. E36



**DAN**  
**\$100 • 922-3645**

**Imagine yourself tied spread-eagle—there's a short, hot bodybuilder top with some . . . unusual devices. You hurt so good you don't know whether to shoot or go blind! Safe? Hell, yes! Creative? Explore the boundaries of pleasure, pain, and sensuality with a stable, built, experienced sadist. ROGER, 864-5566.**

—Real S&M in a safe place—

## Models & Escorts

A butt you can fit in the palm of your hand on an extremely handsome tan gymnast with 1/2" nipples on massive pecs. 5'9", 155#, 8" c, 24yrs. 864-0788. Steve \$80 in/\$100 out. lv. message. E36

### NEW ON THE BLOCK

Fun Loving Stud  
Tanned Italian  
V-Shaped Torso  
NINE INCHER

Keith #626-8535 \$85/\$90 E36

Early relief and erotic enjoyment. Mark's Hot Hands/Videos. 24 hrs. in/out. 648-6081. E36

- Truckers • Preppies • S & M
- Daddies • Surfers • Jocks •
- Body Builders • Leather •
- Bikers • Mountain Men •
- Men of Color • Raunch
- Massage • Punks
- Bears

**STUD**  
Escorts  
for a night on the town... or a night you'll never forget. **STUDFINDERS**

Serving the Entire Bay Area  
**(415) 541-5000**



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Solid, 205lb Stud has big thick 8+", Needs Fr. Serv. Andy 553-8960 E36

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# BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

## BOWLING

### Japantown

## Arnold Rallies Cave Men

by Will Snyder

**T**ick, tock... tick, tock... tick, tock. Just call David Arnold Mr. Clockwork. No, better yet, call David Arnold Mr. Clutch. Well, whatever you want to call this bowling dynamo, one thing is for certain: if you need someone dependable in a tough team situation, David Arnold is the guy to bring in for the big strike.

The 3's It team in Japantown Bowl's Friday Community League found this out on Aug. 18 and then again on Aug. 25. The 3's Its went into their Aug. 18 showdown with Arnold's Cave Men team with a four-game lead over the latter. Just one win would have clinched the championship.

The Cave Men won Game One by 88 pins. Arnold led the way with a 217. Game Two was much tighter, but the Cave Men again won, 526-499. Arnold had a 204 in that game to lead his team.

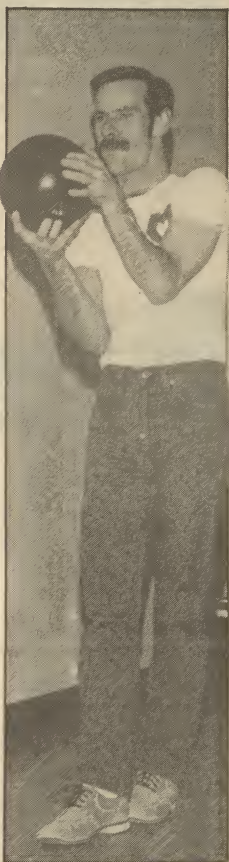
Then came Game Three. The 3's Its, led by consistent games by Red Mangio (175) and Richard Cohen (160), led or were close for most of the game. But looming in the background was that man Arnold, who ended with a 247. The Cave Men won Game Three by three pins to catch 3's It for the top.

That meant that the Sweeper Night on Aug. 25 would also be a rolloff for first place between the two teams. The Cave Men were not to be denied.

This time, Arnold led his team to three easy victories and the championship. His scores were something to behold: 234, 227 and 256 for a 717 series.

Arnold had plenty of support from teammates Frank Rauch and Phil Payton, too. Rauch just missed a 200 in Game One (196) and then followed that with a 234 while finishing with a 584 series. Payton had a solid 183 in Game Two and checked in with a consistent 475 series.

The second place 3's It team had much to be proud of in its summer bowling. Just one more strike here or one more spare there would have clinched a title over a solid bowling team on Aug. 18. In addition to Mangio and Cohen, Richard Shiu also bowled for this fine trio.



David Arnold.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

But the last two weeks belonged to David Arnold. He averaged 230 for the six games when the games were on the line.

Call him quite reliable.

★ ★ ★

If bowling pins could talk, they would have been groaning at Japantown Bowl on Wednesday, Aug. 30, during Wednesday Community League play. The pins were getting bruised by excellent bowling on both sides in the match between the J&A's and Spare This.

Spare This, which gave a 21-pin handicap to the J&A's, turn-

ed in three more-than-respectable efforts in Game Two to bolster its chances for victory. Dennis Hale, who had a 212 in Game One, followed that effort with a 216. Walt Christom had a solid 175 and Keith Bunch a 156. Overall, Spare This had a 772 game, which was 45 pins above average.

Now that should have been enough to at least keep Spare This in the picture. But it wasn't even close. The J&A's blew Spare This away, sparing no mercy. Jim Shevock, who averages 146, rolled a 227. Jessy Tingin (149) had a 214 while Andy Dacanay (151) chipped in with a 213. Add to this a 174 by Alex Nofte (134 avg.), a 120 for one blind bowler and 21 pins in handicap pins and the J&A's rolled in with a 969 game, which was 269 pins above their average.

Now that's some bowling.

★ ★ ★

"Consistency" should be the key word for the Easy Pickups, who now reign as the summer champions of the Wednesday Community League. The EP's compiled a solid, consistent .711 winning percentage while taking 45½ out of 64 games this summer.

A look at the individual averages of this team gives some insight as to how this team won the championship. Three bowlers—Greg Hettmansperger, Brady Butler and Berg Jimenez—had averages of 150 or more (158, 155, and 152 respectively) while Neale Grasham had a 146 average and Jim Missler, a 141.

Some teams have trouble getting a team leader at 140 or better!

★ ★ ★

Here are the 200-plus scores for the last two weeks in Japantown Bowl gay and lesbian leagues:

Tuesday Community League, Aug. 22: Tim Kneis (191) 202, 214 and a 615 series; Bruce Gresham (174) 214; Pete Czech (152) 229; Bob Damron (188) 213; Scott Miller (165) 219, 205 and a 611 series.

Wednesday Community League, Aug. 23: Steve Humphries (150) 207; Jesse Vargas

(159) 207; Carol Hull (144), 200; Jeff Hackenberg (161) 200; Michael Smith (166) 203.

Thursday Community League, Aug. 24: Tom Snyder (156) 206; Dennis Hale (173) 212; Lew Gilmore (159) 214.

Friday Community League, Aug. 25: Efen Carranza (138) 211; Marc Gottschall (151) 211; Efen Mendieta (154) 214; Frank Rauch (175) 234; David Arnold (195) 234, 227 and 256 for a 717 series; Gary Howard (139) 211.

Sunday Reno League, Aug. 27: Ken Kalani (173) 214.

Tuesday Community League, Aug. 29: Roy Parana (136) 209; Scott Miller (169) 217; Ken Gray (182) 207; David Rosario (143)

215; Bobby Baxter (153) 202; Bob Damron (188) 205 and 202.

Wednesday Community League, Aug. 30: Todd Brooks (180) 203; Phil Whitaker (180) 223; Michael Seibel (168) 203; Bob Bryan (171) 220, 203 and a 616 series; Ken Lung (168) 200; Michael Smith (167) 211; Dennis Hale (173) 212, 216; Jim Shevock (146) 227; Andy Dacanay (151) 213; Jessy Tingin (149) 214.

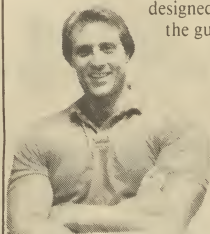
Thursday Community League, Aug. 31: Art White (155) 204.

Note: due to the earlier deadlines for the *Bay Area Reporter* and the holiday weekend, the scores for the Sunday Reno League for Sept. 3 will be reported two weeks from now. ▼

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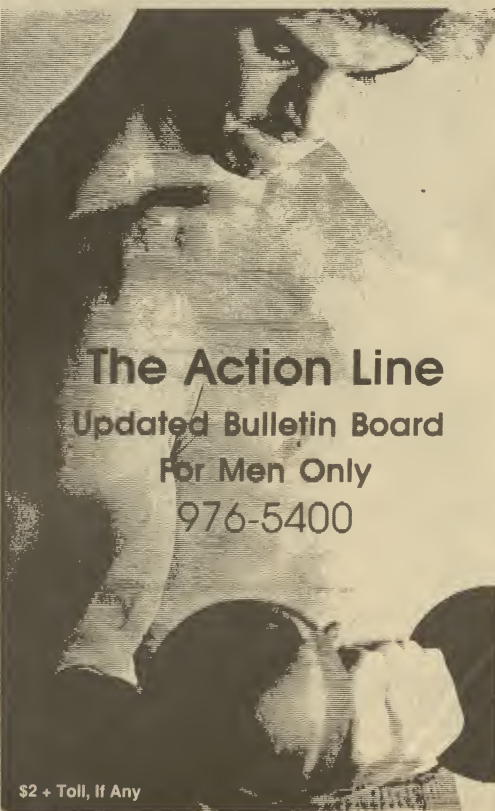
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## Start Getting in Shape For Gay Games III

by Rick Thoman

**Y**ou have 331 days to get in shape if you're going to compete in Gay Games III. Next August in Vancouver, British Columbia, you can be a part of one of the biggest gatherings in athletics outside of the Olympics.

Unlike the Olympics, Celebration '90 adheres to the original Olympic creed that stresses par-

ticipation over competition. In Vancouver the emphasis won't be on winning at any cost but rather a celebration of ourselves as gay people; trained athletes mixed with "weekend warriors," where courage is measured in personal achievement.

Ask anyone who has participated in the previous Gay Games, it is an experience that

shouldn't be missed. The Games highlight our community in a most positive way, and they show us to be like athletes all over the world, gay or straight, striving to be the best that we can be.

While people argue about definitions of "what is a sport," the Vancouver organizers have shrewdly added events that attempt to encompass all those with a desire to participate. From the fast paced action of track & field and swimming to the more refined pace of croquet and darts, the 1990 Gay Games offer something for everyone. There are plenty of opportunities for the

(Continued on page 47)

## Sacramento Hosts Holiday Tourney

Nearly 100 sharpshooters turned out for last weekend's sixth annual Labor Day Open at Sacramento's exquisite Great American Billiards where soft lighting and air conditioning let players and spectators alike slip out of the sweltering, real-time world.

The Sacramento area is home to a number of world-class women 9-ball players and they were joined by others from throughout the West Coast to

swell the women's field to 26 with practically no promotion.

Two San Francisco Pool Association players shelled out the \$60 entry fee to take part in the double-elimination race-to-eight, which began Saturday afternoon. Both Toni Macante and Lauren Ward suffered the rude awakening of a first-round loss and the prospect of early elimination.

Those familiar with the national 9-ball tournament scene would recognize the names of

many of the players, such as Sher Lively, Diane Piercy, Julie Hunter, Lisa D'Atri, Susie Miller, Jan Cane and the defending champion, Kathy Miao.

Macante couldn't catch a break in her second match and was eliminated, 8-3.

"She made six 9-ball combos!" Macante lamented.

Ward breezed by her next opponent, 8-3, and next faced the intimidating Kathy Miao, herself a surprise second-round loser.



(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Lauren lost the first game but got over her feelings of awe as she won the next two and never looked back, eliminating Miao, 8-3, in the contest's first major upset. Buoyed by the win, she stormed over her next opponent, 8-2, and guaranteed herself a minimum prize of \$100.

The ensuing dinner break, tracking down a motel vacancy, and inhaling her first meal of a very long day definitely broke her momentum as she lost her next match, 8-6, to Susie Miller, the same player who delivered Ward's first-round loss.

Miller went on to face Sher Lively and was finally eliminated after a long, see-saw battle. Her tie for fifth was worth \$200.

Dave "Piranha" Piona played in the SFPA a couple of seasons ago and was one of those who ponied up \$100 to play in the 60-player men's field. He was on a hot streak Saturday, advancing undefeated to the winner's bracket final on Sunday against Paul "Doc" Brienza. Dave played beautifully but Doc was flawless, sending the "Piranha" to face the loser's bracket finalist.

Roy Putternick was clearly fired up as he downed Joe Salazar and went on to defeat Piona. Dave had to settle for third place and \$600.

All of Sunday's finals were played in the separate tournament room, home to five tight-pocketed, fast cloth tables and raked theater seats for spectators. The simultaneous men's and women's final matches seemed at times like a three-ring circus as the audience's eyes darted between tables, not wanting to miss one spectacular shot after another.

In the women's field, Diane Piercy defeated Julie Hunter in the winners' bracket final and sat back to see who would survive the losers' bracket to challenge her for the title. Sher Lively defeated Delani Stephens of Portland and then downed Julie Hunter in another close match. Piercy held on for the tournament victory and \$700 in her showdown with Lively, who pocketed \$410 for second place.

With the women's champion decided, all eyes focused on the incredible play in the men's final as Roy took on the Doc.

"I want to play like them," Piercy whispered. "To play like them you've got to give up your life for a few years and do nothing but eat, drink and sleep pool," Kathy Miao said. "They've probably hit over a million more balls than we have."

**Doc Brienza took home \$1,500 and the complete admiration of everyone in the packed arena.**

Roy seemed destined to pull off the upset, defeating Doc in the first set and forcing a tiebreaker for the title. He went ahead 3-0 in the final when Doc stepped up and proceeded to run five consecutive racks, including one in which he pocketed five balls on the break.

Despite sitting down and watching his lead evaporate, Roy came back and was within a game of the title at 8-7 when his break left him snookered with the 9-ball hanging in the corner pocket. Doc snagged the win and broke in the final game. Roy conceded defeat when Doc lined up a 9-ball combination.

Doc Brienza took home \$1,500 and the complete admiration of everyone in the packed arena.

The next opportunity to see or participate in one of the Great American's "majors" arrives the weekend of Oct. 7 when a field of 128 will be drawn in their Fall Handicapped Classic. The USPPA handicapping system will be employed and the top prize is \$2,000. Students of the game shouldn't miss out on that Sunday's finals.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information. ▼



# Gay Network

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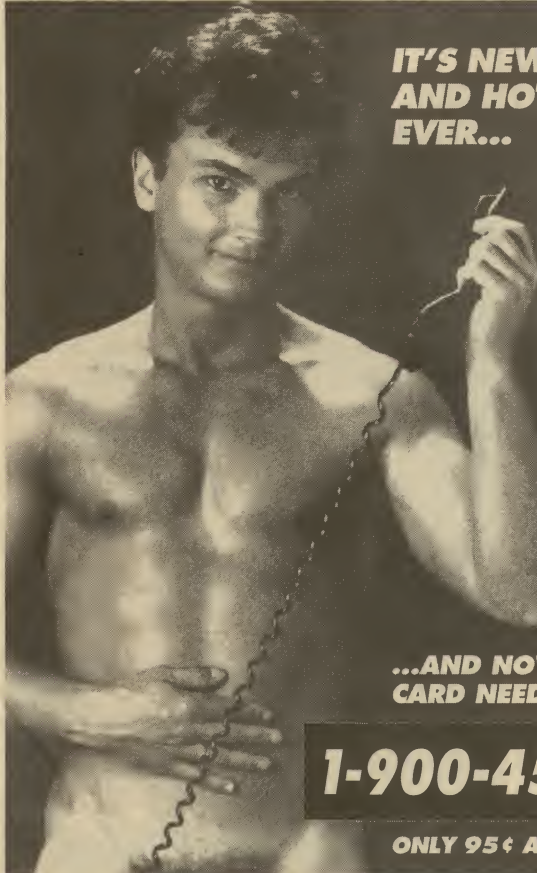
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## Gay Games

(Continued from page 45)

serious athlete to compete at his or her personal best level, while other events ensure that we don't take ourselves too seriously and fall victim to the "gold fever" that plagues the Olympic Games (where anything less than first place isn't acceptable).

There will be 26 sports to choose from. Many feature age group competition, allowing participants to compete against others in their age bracket. The events include badminton, basketball, bowling, billiards, croquet, cycling, soccer, volleyball, darts, diving, swimming, track & field, equestrian, golf, marathon, martial arts, powerlifting, physique, racquetball, touch football, wrestling, triathlon, softball, squash, tennis and water polo. The Games are open to all.

Long after the competition, it's the people you will remember—your teammates, the athletes from other cities whose performances you admire, the trainers, the spectators and the volunteers. The memories are worth all the gold medals given out. And so nobody goes home empty-handed, all participants in Gay Games III will receive a certificate of merit.

The camaraderie is arguably the best part of the Games. Spectators and athletes alike share the experience of Celebration '90 together, on the athletic field and off. It's great meeting athletes from other cities and other sports, comparing training techniques, injury treatments and basic strategies. The Gay Games are a collection of people who love to participate and share with others just like themselves. The support and encouragement extends to first and last place finishers, making everyone feel like a winner.

Make no mistake though, there will be athletes at Celebration '90 ready to take on all challengers. Some have been in training since the last Games in 1986, some never stopped training since the first Games in '82. However, it's not too late to try to get in shape and compete. The sooner you start your program, the more time you have to train and try to perfect your technique.

Just keep in mind that there's more to be gained from participating than the glory of victory. Personal and social development, physical and emotional well-being are a few of the advantages of competing. If your goals are to optimize performance, to maintain overall fitness and health, then your profit from participation will last well beyond the temporary high of winning. This isn't to say winning shouldn't be a part of your game plan. But it is necessary to keep it in perspective. Fame is a transitory entity, and if accepted as

such it can be a wonderful experience. Remember you're only as good as your last race or your most recent performance.

At the Gay Games, it won't matter where you place in your event... first, second, third or even last... more appropriately, it is that you've taken the risk to compete and participate and challenge yourself. Being the best that you can be is clearly the goal of the Gay Games, for the organizers, the athletes and the spectators support every effort, as long as it's an honest and true one. Why not discover how good you really are?



To find out more about becoming a part of Gay Games III in Vancouver, Aug. 4-11, 1990, contact Team San Francisco at 2215-R Market St., #519, San Francisco, CA 94114, or call 626-1333.

In future issues of the *Bay Area Reporter*, find out about some of the people who are training to become a part of history at Gay Games III! ▼

## Angel Island Sports Day Is Sept. 17

by Rick Thoman

Mark your calendars now for the eighth annual Gay Sports Day on Angel Island, Sunday, Sept. 17. The event is sponsored by the San Francisco Frontrunners and is open to everyone, free of charge.

Interest and participation in the event has increased each year, and the Frontrunners are predicting a record crowd this year. Gay and lesbian sports clubs from throughout the Bay Area will be in attendance to share information about their organizations.

A full program of sporting activities has been planned, including a run around the island with the Frontrunners, bicycling with Different Spokes, softball, football, volleyball and hiking. The East Garrison picnic area and field have been reserved and everyone is invited to bring a dish to share at the mammoth pot-luck brunch. Two barbecue pits will be fired up by the Frontrunners for anyone wishing to barbecue. Participants are asked to bring their own drinks.



Transportation to the island will be by ferry from either San Francisco (at Pier 49½) or Tiburon. The San Francisco ferry leaves at 10:50 a.m. and returns at 3:20 p.m., with a round-trip fare of \$7. The Tiburon ferry departs hourly starting at 10 a.m. and the last ferry back is at 5:20 p.m., at \$4 for a round trip. There is an additional charge for bikes, and spaces on the ferries are not guaranteed so it is advisable to arrive early.

For more information regarding Gay Sports Day on Angel Island, call Mike at 863-9987, or David at 621-8142.

The San Francisco Frontrunners have also announced their 10th annual Gay Run in Golden Gate Park. The 5- and 10-kilometer race will be on a loop course starting and finishing at the Polo Fields. The Sunday, Oct. 15, event begins at 9 a.m. and is open to all interested participants. Registration forms are available at Fleet Feet on Market at 26th Street, or Hoy's Sports on Haight Street.

For more information, call Jim at 922-1435. Those wishing to volunteer to help with the race, call Dave at 626-1380. ▼



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#### TESTAMENT

His litany of lovers  
Starts off like something tribal.  
There's Matthew, Mark, Luke  
and John,  
Just like in the Bible.

But he's been a little sheltered  
This Israeli with his Torah  
He thinks that S&M means  
Sodom and Gomorrah.

—Bob Woolhouse

## Prussia

(Continued from page 27)

first few little skirmishes. But as soon as there were huge battles and thousands of men, none of whom had any training, it became an enormous problem. They couldn't maneuver during a battle, and it sometimes took them months to move [from camp to camp]."

It was von Steuben who taught American troops how to fight and to march as a "perfectly coordinated military machine" (as Jones has Washington describe them). For nearly 100 years after the Revolutionary War, in fact, the U.S. Army continued to rely on the *Blue Book*, von Steuben's manual on military training. As president, Washington sought von Steuben's advice on the founding of the academy at West Point.

Jones admits that he is hard-pressed to think of anyone "whose life was more interesting and more dramatic than [von Steuben's]." Adds Jones, "von Steuben was probably the only person of his century who knew Catherine the Great in Russia, Frederick the Great in Germany, Beaumarchais and Benjamin Franklin in Paris, and stayed with the Washingtons at Mount Vernon. Who else [had contacts like those] all across the world at the time?"

A high camp mixture of burlesque, vaudeville, dell'arte, and traditional theatre, *Friedrich* owes a further stylistic debt to Charles Ludlam and the absurdist. Scene changes, for example, are announced by the turning of the pages of a gigantic, on-stage storybook; the trees behind



M. Michael Goico and Charles Blackburn play young soldiers in the campy comedy, *Friedrich*. (Photo: Jill Posener)

which *Friedrich* practices adolescent voyeurism are actually actors holding imitation branches all gilded with glitter.

Still later, when the adult *Friedrich* arrives in Paris, he is instantly sized up by two 18th-century wags, complete with powdered wigs, beauty marks and other "après moi le deluge" foppery. And Jones's vision of von Steuben's first attempts to impart military discipline to Washington's cold, exhausted troops is pure physical comedy underscored by Chaplinesque pathos. (Von Steuben affectionately referred to the raggedly uniformed American soldiers as his "sans coulottes"—without

pants.)

*Friedrich*'s final scene was played out at a great gay cocktail party in Heaven, where St. Peter introduced *Friedrich* to Michelangelo, Yukio Mishima, and the others in their little group. ("Richard the Lion-Hearted is a scream!" he assures *Friedrich*.) History, in other words, has never been gayer (and certainly never more fun). One senses that von Steuben would have approved. ▼

**Friedrich**  
by William Andrew Jones  
Theatre Rhinoceros through Oct. 15  
Box Office: 861-5079

## Theatre Rhinoceros Begins 12th Season

In its 12th season, and 20 years after Stonewall, Theatre Rhinoceros looks at gay men and lesbians from Valley Forge to Valley Girls, finding a perspective by hopscotching through 200 years of gay lives, both real and imagined. The theatre presents four world premiers, a West Coast premiere, a major revival, an off-Broadway success, and a play almost overlooked amidst San Francisco's smaller theatres.

While the nimble whimsy of *Friedrich* is on the Mainstage, the Studio will see the local premiere of Rebecca Ranson's *Secrets*, opening Oct. 6 with Kelly Hill directing. *Secrets* is the enduring love story of two women whose interracial romance spans more than 30 years leading up to the birth of the civil rights movement.

Then, on the Mainstage, it's the world premiere of Hilary Sloin's *Lust and Pity* on Nov. 11. In this over-the-edge dark comedy of lesbian lust and obsessive love, a psychiatrist falls for her blonde-bombshell client. The lovemaking and nudity of *Lust and Pity* bring a hot new feel to lesbian theatre and Theatre Rhinoceros.

In homage to Stonewall, we take a look at life in the 1960s, with Mart Crowley's classic *The Boys in the Band*, directed by Kenneth Dixon, and find that some things never change... while others do.

Are you ready for this one? Then we jump back to Paris in the 1920s, and the lovely company of *Gertrude Stein and a Companion*, Win Wells' off-Broadway hit that isn't just another imitation of Gertrude Stein but a tender and true depiction of her love affair with Alice B. Toklas.

The Studio, meanwhile, hooks into Nazi-occupied Europe in the 1930s in the tense drama of love and war, *Pavana*, by Richard Wilshire. Steve Omlid recreates his praised direction of the recent AART production in this confrontation between a gay Nazi and a young Belgian girl.

The Studio season concludes back in the present, with the April 6 opening of *Dolores Street*, a world premiere by Theresa Carilli. It's an engaging comedy in which four young women learn the ropes in a new city, while looking for love and sharing an apartment on... Dolores Street.

From 1970s liberation through 1980s doubts, with a powerful look to the future, lyricist Henry Mach celebrates the sexuality of gay men in *Dirty Dreams of a Clean Cut Kid*, a rousing musical directed by John F. Karr and E. Allen Sawyer. It opens May 19 to provide a provocative season finale to the Theatre Rhinoceros panorama of 200 years of gay and lesbian life. ▼

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## Motorcycle

(Continued from page 36)

gins" in white lace (masterfully portrayed by club president D'Wayne Thomas) be beheaded by a cardboard sword (painful paper cuts) and tossed into the volcano.

The second act moved ahead several centuries to the notorious bombing of Pearl Harbor, but with a clever switch. The island was bombarded by the Japanese, not with bombs but with their imported audio visual equipment, as kamikaze pilots dropped warehouse boxes labeled Sony, Sanyo and NEC. And thus was America attacked where it really hurts—in the pocketbook.

Years pass and we move to the island paradise being attacked by a pair-a-guys, horny sailors on the make and lyrically lamenting, "If This Is Hawaii, Why Don't I Get a Lei?" Fear not, after much ukelele serenading, the gobs eventually score, with plenty of homo-nookie-nookie from a lovely, mustachioed drag queen.

Finally, the time frame enters the present and we see the Ugly American and his uglier wife on the beach at Waikiki, complete with appropriately nauseating Don Ho songs such as "Tiny Bubbles." Or, considering the outfit of Mrs. Ugly American, perhaps we should say "Tiny Boobies."

There follows an interminable

number of Hawaiian numbers ("Sweet Leilani," "Little Grass Shack," etc.) until the inevitable occurs—a Polynesian cowboy explains of his sorry state attempting to copy the country western dudes in the states: "But I don't know how; cowboy must have cow."

Suddenly a Van Halen modernized version of "Happy Trails" blares over the loudspeaker while Maui cowboys and their wahinees with weenies (is that a pineapple in your mumu, or are you just glad to see us?) become Oriental Roy Rogerses and Dale Evanses. This would appear to be the end of the show.

But then, just when you think it's safe to go back in the water, the finale arrives and takes the audience as unaware as Jaws III.

Rather than ending in a typical, schmaltzy "Aloha Oe" or "Hawaiian Wedding Song," the entire cast bursts into vivacious choruses of "When You Wish Upon a Star," waving their wands in anticipation of the *ultimate* wand appearing. After all, when you wish upon a star, what would you wish for? If you're an audience of gay bikers and biker aficionados, why a gigantic phallus emerging from the volcano, of course. It was Disneyland gone awry in Hawaii.

As Miss Piggy was heard to wittily comment, "Isn't it a crime to see what America's refined sugar has done to Hawaiians?"

Aloha oy vei! ▼

# REGISTER TO VOTE

# Heymont

(Continued from page 31)

has so much going for it that one only wishes Sellars had had the courage to let his singers perform *Così Fan Tutte* in English.

Whereas most stagings of *Così* treat Mozart's opera with a certain amount of lightheartedness, Sellars has taken great pains to explore the darker side of what happens when suspicion, doubt, and a desire for revenge are mixed with what one once thought was true love.

Thus, Don Alfonso has a tendency to drink too much and, in spite of his love for her, abuse his Despina. Don Alfonso's distinct need to be humiliated offers a sharp foil to the confusion and rage shared by Fiordiligi, Dorabella and Despina once they realize the shattering consequences of using casual sex as a means of getting what they want (if, indeed, any of these women actually knows what she wants).

When one considers the on-

slaught of visual images from American pop culture, which Sellars uses to decorate all three of his Mozart/Da Ponte productions, the director's unwillingness to lift the language barrier between his singers and audience seems curiously self-defeating. All language barriers aside, the shining strength of Sellars' production is the cohesiveness of its ensemble. While singers like Frank Kelley (Ferrando) and Susan Larson (Fiordiligi) may not possess the solid vocal instruments with which international artists like Gosta Winbergh and Carol Vaness have been endowed, what these people do with their voices, bodies and characterizations is much more relevant to what *Così Fan Tutte* is really all about.

James Maddalena, Sanford Sylvan and Janice Felty delivered exceptionally fine performances as Guglielmo, Don Alfonso and Dorabella while, in her own way, Sue Ellen Kuzma's diner waitress Despina had a remarkably poignant appeal. As usual, Craig Smith conducted the orchestra

with an immaculate sense of ensemble.

As most people know, images of pop culture abound in any Peter Sellars production. In *Così Fan Tutte*, these ranged from a line-up of three men holding cans of Bud Lite in their hands to the slumped restlessness of Fiordiligi and Dorabella as they idly thumbed through men's fashion magazines; from Despina's disguise as a Shirley MacLaine style faith healer (Sellars arranged to have the actress's meditation videotape playing in the theater lobby during intermission) to her reappearance in Act II as a Yuppie lawyerette with personal computer in tow. In a moment of rage, one of the sisters smeared mustard all over the walls of Despina's diner. Instead of being transformed into "Albanians," Ferrando and Guglielmo become two swinging "dudes."

Again, there is so much of dramatic value in this staging that one can only regret the director's decision not to have Mozart's opera sung in English. The good

news, however, is that all three of Sellars' Mozart/Da Ponte productions (*Così Fan Tutte*, *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*) will be videotaped in Vienna this fall so that a wealth of opera-lovers can see what all the critical fuss and bother is about.

## Music

(Continued from page 28)

and directed at something more than just personal, sexual gratification.

### We Get Letters

Ken, of Oakland, has written and says that our Aug. 17 column seems a bit misleading. We reported that as of that week, Prince had reclaimed his position on the throne of American Pop Music with his soundtrack LP "Batman" lodged at #1, and his single "Batdance" at #1 on the singles chart.

We stated that this was a feat that had eluded Prince since the soundtrack to "Purple Rain"

was at #1, along with the #1 singles "When Doves Cry" and "Let's Go Crazy."

Ken pointed out the success that Prince has had during this interim, especially the chart-topping single "Kiss."

What we were trying to stress in the article is the profound success that Prince is enjoying by simultaneously holding down the #1 Pop Album and the #1 Pop Single positions.

Back when both "Let's Go Crazy" and "When Doves Cry" went to #1 on the Pop Singles charts, Prince was simultaneously holding down the #1 Pop LP position with the "Purple Rain" soundtrack. A feat that he recaptured just now with "Batman."

Thanks, Ken. Keep 'em coming. We appreciate it.

### The Retro Beat

Ten years ago this week, **The Knack** was at #1 with "My Sharona." Twenty years ago this week it was "Honky Tonk Woman" by the **Rolling Stones**.

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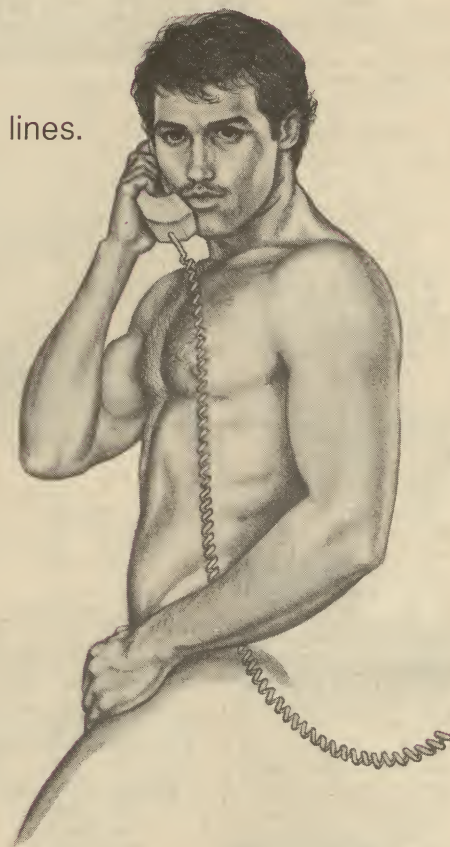
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